

Home Secretary cracks down on street thugs who carry knives

Hurd unveils package on law and order

● Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday announced measures to tighten controls on the carrying of knives and offensive weapons.

● The Appeal Court is to be given power to increase over-lenient sentences and a further 4,200 prison places are to be created.

● A new Broadcasting Standards Authority is to be established to deal with complaints about sex and violence on television.

● Mr Cecil Parkinson, Energy Secretary, was given a hero's welcome on his return to the conference platform for the first time since 1983.

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

A brave speech by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, announcing a wide-ranging package of law and order measures, and some deft conference management enabled the Conservative Party leadership to avoid embarrassment in the

Labour to take aim at Baker

By Nicholas Wood and Philip Webster

Labour leaders decided yesterday to base their parliamentary assault on education reform by trying to discredit Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science.

As Mr Baker was scoring a political triumph at the Conservative conference in Blackpool, the Shadow Cabinet made opposition to the education shake-up their top priority for the coming year.

In an astonishing personal attack on Mr Baker, they described him yesterday as devious, shallow and unworthy.

In Blackpool, Mr Baker saw off the critics within his own ranks in an uncharacteristically bruising speech attacking the "smug complacency" of many educationists.

He won a prolonged standing ovation for a performance which strengthened his leadership credentials.

"I have put my hand to the plough of education reform and I will carry through to the end of the furrow," he told representatives as he dismissed suggestions of a rift with the Prime Minister.

But Labour leaders meeting in Rottingdean, Sussex, concluded that the reported differences between the two

Continued on page 24, col 1

IN PART 2

Drug ban

The International Olympic Committee wants to ban the use by competitors of the hormone preparation human chorionic gonadotrophin. Page 42

New direction

A sense of direction needs to be introduced into the secretarial profession, says an introduction to today's five-page General Appointments section. Pages 31-35

Bar results

Michaelmas Term Bar examination results will be published tomorrow.

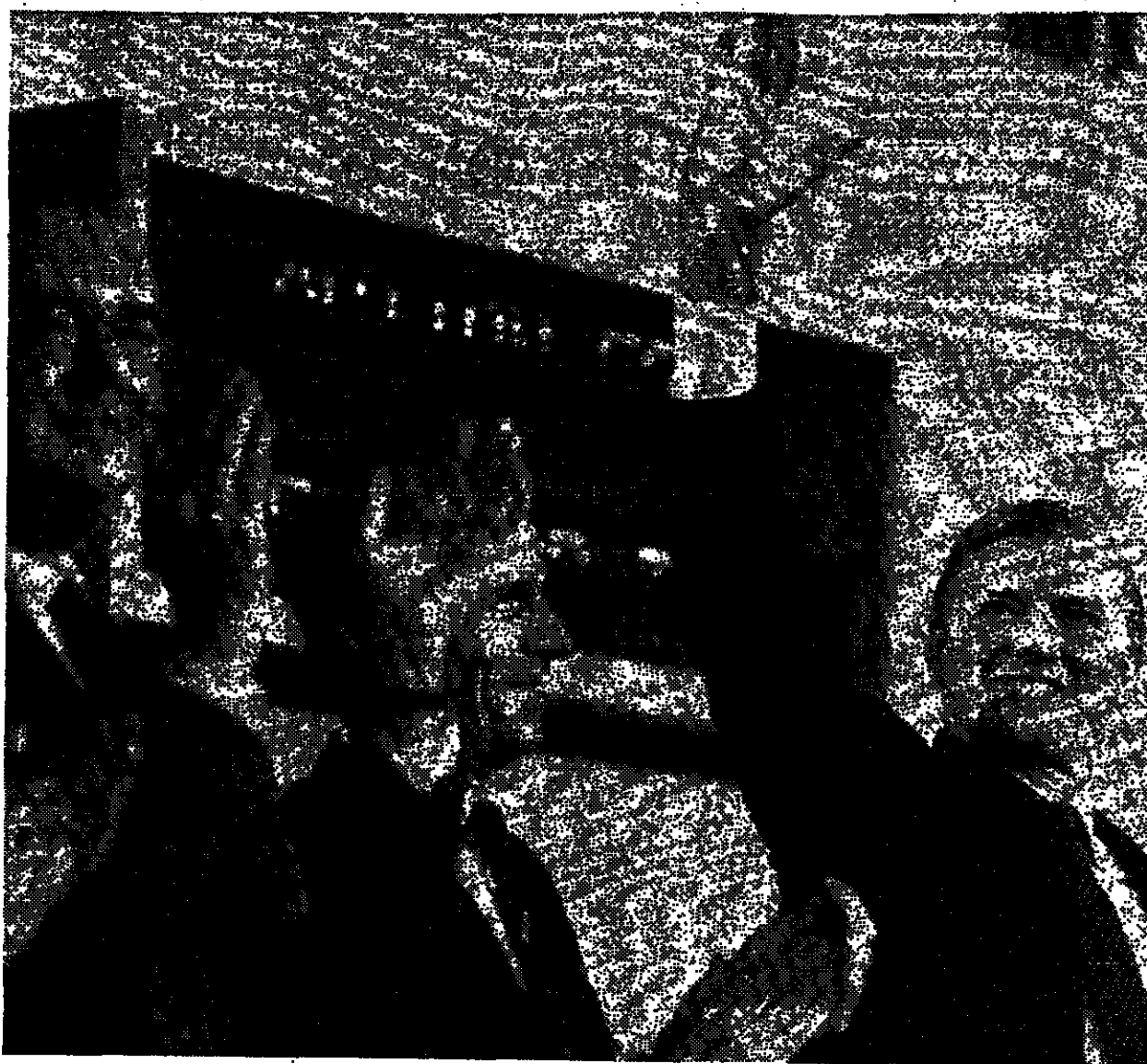
Portfolio

● The £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition was won by Mr Nigel Crack, of Lincoln. Details, page 3. ● Portfolio list, page 29.

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Mr Parkinson acknowledging the cheers at the Conservative Party conference yesterday (Photograph: Graham Wood).

Parkinson returns to the party in triumph

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Cecil Parkinson yesterday made a hero's return to the Conservative Party conference platform after a four-year absence.

Mr Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, delivered a rapturously received speech in which he gave his first clear indication that he intends to break up the Central Electricity Generating Board as part of privatizing the electricity industry, and to open the national transmission grid to outside companies.

The conference cheered and clapped Mr Parkinson when he led his ministerial team on to the platform for the energy debate. After the speech he was given an ovation lasting more than two minutes.

For Mr Parkinson, who resigned as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry during the Blackpool conference in 1983 after revelations about his private life, it was a personal triumph.

He told the conference that the Government had yet to make a final decision on the structure of the industry.

He confirmed that the industry would not be sold off as one monolithic corporation. He indicated that distribution, which accounts for some 20 per cent of electricity bills, would stay as a monopoly. As much competition as possible would be introduced into the remaining 80 per cent, the generating and transmission sides.

Signalling his readiness to take on Lord Marshall, the CEB chairman who is fighting against fragmenting electricity generation, Mr Parkinson told the conference: "There is no natural monopoly in generation and there is no justification for monopolistic practices in transmission."

He also announced that he was considering a plan to guarantee better standards of service for consumers, including proposals for rebates and vouchers for customers who receive services short of the agreed standards.

Lord Marshall will open his campaign of lobbying to keep the generating arm of the electricity business in one operating unit at the Conservative Party conference today.

Indian troops to shoot on sight after massacre

From Vijitha Yapa in Colombo and Kuldip Nayar in Delhi

The Indian Army Chief of Staff, General K. Sumbardi, yesterday flew to Sri Lanka as his peace-keeping troops in the country were given shoot-on-sight orders in the wake of a massacre by Tamil militants of 179 people.

A government spokesman in Delhi said that India's 11,000-strong force had been ordered to be "ruthless" in dealing with the militants after the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, went on a rampage on Tuesday and yesterday against mainly Sinhalese civilians in Eastern province.

The guerrillas were apparently exacting revenge for the deaths of 12 of their number who committed suicide by taking cyanide capsules last weekend after being captured by Sri Lankan troops during an alleged arms-smuggling operation.

Although the majority of the killings were perpetrated in Eastern province, there were fears that similar massacres may have occurred in the north of the island where

telephone links have been cut. The Tamil guerrilla action included an attack on a train coming from the eastern town of Batticaloa to Colombo on Tuesday night in which nine compartments were destroyed by fire and eight charred bodies recovered. But police sources in Batticaloa said that 42 Sinhalese had been killed.

A further 38 were reportedly murdered in the town of Eravur, including women and children, and 21 were hacked

to death at Lahugala after a state-owned bus was stopped. Other attacks were reported in Batticaloa, Kuchchaveli, Mannankam, and Pabavikulam, with the death toll in those estimated at more than 80.

At Erankulam, near Trincomalee, three Sri Lankan Army personnel were killed in a landmine explosion. The inaccessibility and the remoteness of some of the

villages in the north and east of the island have raised fears that the death toll could be far higher.

Police and army sources say that the strategy of the Tamil Tigers is to drive the Sinhalese out of the Eastern province before a referendum next year on whether the temporary joining of the Northern and Eastern provinces under the Indo Sri-Lankan peace accord should be permanent.

Observers feel that with mounting criticism of the Indian peace-keeping force and its failure to quell Tamil violence, there are fears now of a Sinhalese backlash.

The Government has also ordered that there can be no joining of the Northern and Eastern provinces until President Jayawardene is satisfied that all arms belonging to the Tamil guerrillas have been surrendered and violence ended.

Meanwhile, more Indian troops are likely to be sent to the Northern and Eastern provinces and heavy armour may follow.

Soccer gang raids by police

By Craig Seton

West Midlands police arrested 36 people yesterday in an elaborate undercover operation to smash a gang of football hooligans, known as the Zulu Warriors.

The gang used knives and coshes and kept diaries and albums boasting of violent attacks on police and rival groups.

Twelve knives, a machete, home made coshes and sharpened billiard cues were seized in the dawn raids by nearly 200 officers at addresses throughout the West Midlands.

They were the culmination of a secret eight-month operation, codenamed Red Card, in which policemen dressed as skinheads infiltrated the gang to record its violent tactics on football terraces and in shopping centres.

Several professional men, with "responsible" jobs, were said to be among those arrested by the police, who had search warrants.

The 36 men, aged between 17 and 40, will appear at a special magistrates' court in Birmingham today, charged with affray, conspiracy to commit public order offences, stabbing, robbery and shoplifting.

Yesterday senior officers displayed the seized weapons and praised the undercover officers who they said had faced great danger in mingling with the gang on trips to football matches across the country.

The undercover officers, who used false identities, were not even allowed to return to their stations in case they gave away their cover as they went to clubs and pubs with gang members.

Instead, they kept in touch with senior officers by telephone and relayed information about the gang's ring-leaders to another police team compiling a dossier on its activities.

The gang, mainly supporters of Birmingham City Football Club, had been followed to away matches as far afield as Leeds and Torquay.

Its members, or "soldiers" switched their attention to city centres to carry out muggings, shopliftings, robberies and to cause damage after they realized that they would be identified by police surveillance cameras if they caused trouble at matches.

Senior officers said yesterday that in the albums seized in the raids were cuttings from newspapers about football violence and photographs of gang members causing trouble at matches.

Mr Paul Leopold, assistant chief constable (operations) of the West Midlands, said: "It is

Continued on page 24, col 7

Lending rates rise in US

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Banks in the United States raised prime lending rates yesterday, justifying Wall Street's fears about dearer money and pointing the way to further rate rises worldwide. Leading US banks increased their rates from 8.75 to 9.25 per cent.

Shares steadied in New York after Tuesday's record 91 point fall, but the mood remained nervous. In early afternoon trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was 10.77 points lower, at 2,537.86.

In London, share prices edged down, with the FT-SE 100 index closing 8.1 points lower at 2,359.8. Money market interest rates moved higher. But the City is expecting an optimistic speech from the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, today.

Rate rise, page 25

100 feared torn apart by sharks

Santo Domingo (Reuter) —

Sharks are feared to have torn to pieces as many as 100 people fleeing the Dominican Republic for Puerto Rico on Tuesday after their fragile boat broke up 10 miles from shore.

"It was horrific, worse than death," an unnamed survivor said in a local radio broadcast, describing how he saw the sharks snapping at people as he bobbed from wave to wave.

Fishermen who went to the rescue said there were thought to have been between 100 and 200 people aboard the clandestine refugee boat.

Officials said that by late on Tuesday only 23 survivors had been found.

Survivors, fishermen and rescue workers said they saw a school of sharks tearing away at bodies in the Mona Passage, the waterway in the Caribbean between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

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Monkey business in space ruffles Russians

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A mischievous monkey who has partially escaped his restraints on board a Soviet space satellite is now causing havoc among the equipment and threatening a premature end to a 12-day international research programme into the effects of weightlessness.

Applly named Yerasha, a Russian term meaning "trouble-maker", the monkey was one of two blasted off on September 29 on board a self-styled "bio-satellite" with a range of other creatures including rats, fish and insects. He had completed a training course in simulated space flight.

According to the Soviet news agency Tass, the trouble began on the fifth day of the mission — which is

being conducted in conjunction with experts from the US, the European Space Agency and socialist countries — when Yerasha freed his left arm from his cuff and "delightedly" began exploring everything in reach.

Ground control experts monitoring the experiment on video screens were first alerted to the problem when they noticed that a small nameplate was missing from a cap fitted with electrodes attached to the monkey's head.

"The nameplate was evidently bothering Yerasha," Tass said, explaining that it was not yet clear where he had put it. The agency added sombrely: "Analysis of the entire situation, data received from the ground experiment and humanitarian considerations ... may at any time

move the experts to decide on a tube, and have compensated with extra fruit juice.

In a bizarre exercise in damage control, embarrassed experts at ground control have now employed an "understudy" monkey to try to help them assess the risks facing the mission whose findings were designed to pave the way for future interplanetary manned space travel.

Seated in a satellite mock-up with its left arm also freed, the understudy is being required to perform the same tasks as Yerasha, who is fed only after making the correct response to light signals on the satellite's complex control panel. The experts have already discovered that the misbehaving space monkey was not receiving sufficient food through his dosage

move the experts to decide on a tube, and have compensated with extra fruit juice.

They have also reported that Yerasha's problems began during lift-off when his pulse rate increased to 200 beats a minute and his temperature soared before returning to normal. In marked contrast, his fellow space monkey Dryoma reacted well to the sudden changes in atmospheric pressure. Tass reported that Dryoma, whose Russian name conveys sluggishness, was slower and more even-tempered than his crew mate.

As the future of the third Soviet satellite voyage involving monkeys remained in the balance last night, the agency reported with a note of relief that everything was in order in the spacecraft's other compartments.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Zeebrugge ferry jury retires

The jury in the inquest into the deaths of 188 passengers and crew killed after the Herald of Free Enterprise ferry capsized at Zeebrugge retired to an hotel yesterday to consider their verdict.

Mr Richard Sturt, the Canterbury and Dover coroner, told the eight men and three women during his summing-up at Dover that there were three possible verdicts: open, accidental death, or unlawful killing - which would require them to be satisfied of gross negligence by an individual.

Accidental death would not mean that they considered no one was to blame.

Aberdeen cuts staff

Aberdeen University has reduced staff cuts from 165 posts to 130 but they still represent a loss of one in four of the staff.

The university's principal, Professor George McNicol, has had to concentrate department closures in the humanities and arts to win funding for 10 more science jobs.

The cuts date to a decision by the University Grants Committee last year that Aberdeen had been "historically overfunded". It proposed cuts amounting to £2.5 million every year for three years.

Flaws in ship denied

Suggestions that serious flaws might have been overlooked in the construction of the bulk carrier Derbyshire, which disappeared without trace seven years ago in the Pacific, were rejected yesterday.

Mr William Jowett, a former senior manager of Swan Hunter, which built the ship, told a London inquiry that any misaligned girders or faulty welding would have been discovered in examinations.

Safety at work film

A film was launched yesterday to reduce the risk of people meeting the same fate as Miss Suzy Lamplugh, the London estate agent who disappeared last year.

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust, set up by Mrs Diana Lamplugh, her mother, has produced the 20-minute video, *Avoiding Danger*, in conjunction with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Kelly Temporary Services to combat aggression at work. *Avoiding Danger* (Nacab Vision, 115/123 Pentonville Road, London N1 9LZ, £30).

Wapping TUC talk

The TUC is to hold exploratory talks about trade union representation with the Salaried Staffs Council at the News International plant at Wapping, east London.

The decision yesterday comes after a ballot of 846 production staff at the hi-tech plant which publishes *The Times* and three other national newspapers.

Leaders of the AEU, EETPU, NGA, NUJ and Sogat attended yesterday's meeting with Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC. A TUC report will go to the unions.

Warning on drink

The Welsh Health Promotion Authority has asked the Government to halt plans to liberalize licensing laws. It claims that alcohol abuse is already costing the principality £250,000 a day.

An opinion poll based on a sample of 1,000 Welsh respondents found that more than half the population was either opposed to any changes or wanted tighter controls on opening hours. More than 40 per cent thought the Government's proposals would increase the alcohol problem.

Cleveland 'abuse' sisters returned to parents

By Peter Davenport

Two young sisters taken from their parents in the Cleveland sexual abuse controversy were allowed home yesterday.

Middlesbrough Juvenile Court ordered their return after being told that a child health expert had contradicted diagnoses of abuse made by Dr Mariette Higgs, one of the

two consultants at the centre of the affair.

The elder girl, aged five, was diagnosed as suffering sexual abuse by Dr Higgs when she was taken to Middlesbrough General Hospital for a routine check-up on June 19. Her sister, aged 20 months, was in the waiting room with her grandmother when the doctor asked to examine her as well.

The girls were taken into care immediately and placed in a foster home until August 27, when they were allowed to live at their grandparents' house, although still under a care order.

Cleveland social services department commissioned a report into the girls and their 33-year-old parents by Professor Hans Steiner, senior

lecturer in child health at Newcastle University. He found "no convincing evidence" in the case of the elder girl and that abuse was "unlikely" in the younger child.

Although the children were allowed home yesterday, magistrates made them the subjects of a 28-day interim care order.

Across the square from the juvenile court, the public inquiry into the handling of the child sexual abuse crisis in Cleveland was told how Dr Higgs and her colleague, Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, had refused to consider serious complaints made against them at a meeting with regional health officials.

Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss

heard evidence that Dr Wyatt took the view that adults would make complaints to regain control of their children to prevent them disclosing details of abuse.

Dr Liam Donaldson, northern regional medical officer of health, said the consultants first wished to consult with their defence societies.

The inquiry continues.

CEGB pays £600m to cut acid rain emissions

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The Central Electricity Generating Board is to build the world's largest sulphur gas extraction plant at Drax power station, Yorkshire, in an attempt to rid itself of its reputation as western Europe's biggest producer of acid rain.

The 4,000 megawatt power station, Europe's largest, is to be fitted with equipment to extract sulphur from the flue gases, a pollutant blamed for much of the acid rain falling on Britain and western Europe.

In a £600 million anti-pollution programme, the CEGB will also install flue-gas desulphurization (FGD) equipment at the 2,000 megawatt Fiddler's Ferry power station in Cheshire.

The two stations produce 15 per cent of Britain's electricity, and the FGD measures are expected to reduce CEGB sulphur gas emissions by 15 per cent.

The first anti-pollution plant will come on stream in 1993, and the whole programme will be operational in 10 years. About 1,200 jobs will be created at Drax and Fiddler's Ferry during the five-year construction, with about 160 permanent jobs afterwards.

All new coal-fired power stations will also be built with FGD plant, with the first being completed late in the next decade. "These measures are indicative of the very serious commitment the

CEGB has to international environmental protection", Mr Derek Davis, a CEGB board member said yesterday.

Last autumn, the CEGB announced that it would fit FGD to 6,000 megawatts of its existing plant. The board has been investigating which plant should be fitted with FGD, and the technology to be used.

The investigation has been complicated by the demand from environmental groups that the limestone needed in the FGD process should not be extracted from areas of outstanding beauty, and that the slurry left over be dealt with properly.

Drax is well placed for the raw materials for FGD, and to sell the chief by-product of the technique, gypsum, used in many building products.

A different "regenerative" FGD process, which produces saleable sulphuric acid, will be used at Fiddler's Ferry.

Four Greenpeace protesters were arrested yesterday after boarding a ship off the Tees estuary in the North Sea and causing it to return to port without releasing its cargo of toxic waste.

The "eco-guerrillas" scrambled on to the waste ship Yarrow six miles out of the Tees from a flotilla of high-speed inflatables and draped banners with the slogan 'Stop Sea Dumping' over its superstructure. Six boarders handcuffed themselves to the ship.

Murdered bailiff refused police aid

By Craig Seton

The county court bailiff, Mr Dennis Hull, had told his superiors that he did not need a police escort when he went to evict the householder who shot him and a young woman solicitor's clerk dead, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mr Hull, aged 61, of Cherrytree Lane, Billbrook, Wolverhampton, told his bosses that he did not anticipate any trouble from Charles Whitehouse, who was known to be armed and dangerous, and as a result the police were never called.

But yesterday Mr Hull's widow criticized her husband's senior officers for letting him go to evict Mr Whitehouse without protection.

Mrs Eileen Hull, aged 60, said that the bailiffs at Wolverhampton County Court should have acted to protect her husband after receiving two warnings from a solicitor who survived the shooting that Whitehouse was threatening to shoot anyone who tried to evict him.

Whitehouse shot Mr Hull twice with his legally held double-barrelled shotgun as the bailiff arrived on the doorstep of the gunman's home in Tynedale Crescent, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday to serve a possession order.

Whitehouse, aged 57, then shot dead Miss Louise Winspear, aged 22, as she sat in a car parked outside.

Then he killed himself with the shotgun he had had for 13 years.

Mr David Cummings, aged 32, the solicitor who wrote two warning letters to the county court about Whitehouse, accompanied Mr Hull and Miss Winspear but survived the tragedy.

Beauty on parade



Corporal Margaret Graham, a trained beautician at the Women's Royal Army Corps barracks at Aldershot, attends to First Lance-Corporal Suzanne McLaughlin in a novel departure for today's modern Army (Alan Hamilton writes).

The beauty service has the support of the corps' commanding officer, Major

Jacqui Lindsay, who said yesterday that anything that made the troops feel good was important for morale.

It was the idea of Cpl Graham, aged 24, from Aberdeen, who took make-up courses in her spare time and now counsels her comrades in the evening. By day she is a heavy goods vehicle driver.

Robinson quits in Unionist talks crisis

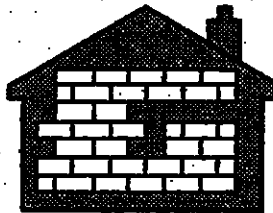
The resignation of Mr Peter Robinson as deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party has brought into the open a growing crisis about the direction of Ulster Unionism (John Cooney writes).

Mr Robinson, aged 38, has not resigned from the party and will remain MP for East Belfast.

He was one of the authors of a report which called for renewed dialogue with the Government.

Although he has made no public statement, Mr Robinson's decision is widely seen as evidence of his frustration about the lack of action by Unionist leaders who are involved in "talks about talks" with Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

SATURDAY PROPERTY GUIDE



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The Thames Water A to Z of Integrated River Basin Management



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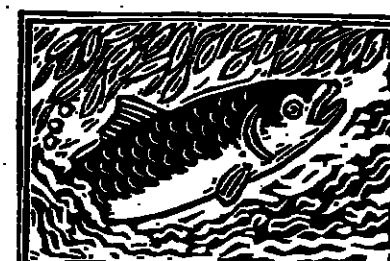
CONSERVATION



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ENGINEERING



FISHERIES



GROWTH IN DEMAND



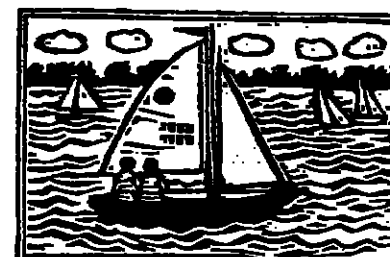
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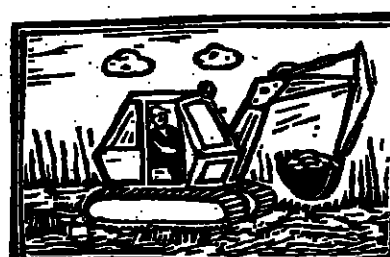
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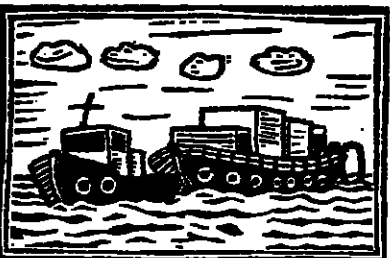
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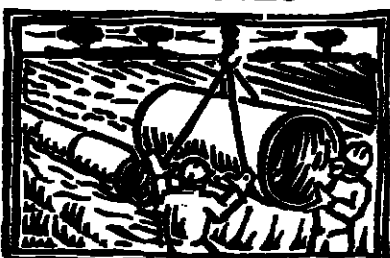
MONITORING STANDARDS



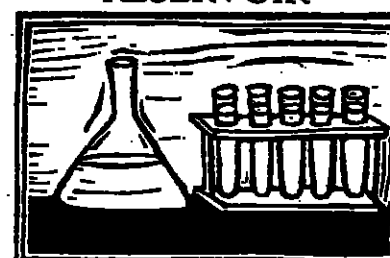
NAVIGATION



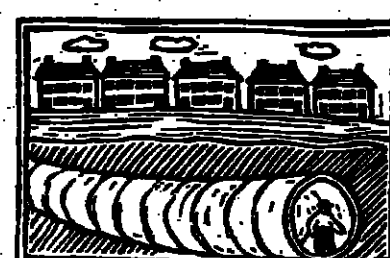
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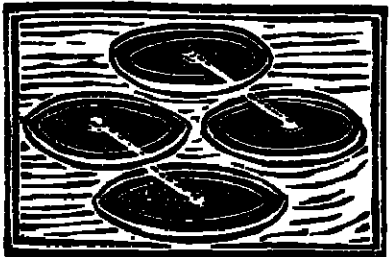
PIPEWORK SERVICES



QUALITY CONTROL



RING MAIN FOR LONDON



SEWAGE TREATMENT



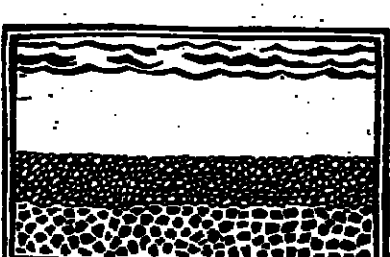
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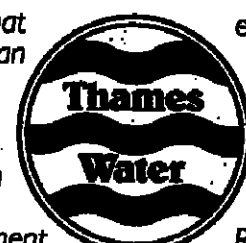
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Patients are dying on waiting lists, say cancer doctors

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Cancer patients needing radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatment at a leading hospital are dying because there is no money to treat them, doctors claimed yesterday.

Doctors in the cancer unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, were told last week that they would have to close a third of the 68 oncology beds because the hospital is running out of money. Seven beds have already been closed because of a nursing shortage.

Dr Michael Cullen, a cancer physician, said yesterday that hundreds of patients were waiting several weeks for radiotherapy and chemotherapy which should be given within a few days. "The longer they wait the more likely their tumours will worsen and spread. Many patients will die on the waiting list."

Dr Cullen said that figures

compiled in June showed that over the past year more than 10 per cent of waiting patients had died or developed incurable stages of cancer which could have been checked if treated earlier. "The number of patients we are treating has risen by 30 per cent since 1981 but we are only being funded for the number we treated six years ago."

The oncology unit is heading for a £70,000 overspend and hospital administrators have said that the 5,000 patients treated every year must be reduced by a third.

Dr Cullen has 11 patients needing chemotherapy for cancer. Mr Michael Perkins, aged 41, who is married with two children, needs treatment for testicular cancer which has resulted in secondary cancer of the lungs. He was referred to Dr Cullen from another Birmingham hospital but he

has not been told when he will be admitted.

"Every five days his tumour doubles in size, and his conditions become more critical but I cannot tell him when I can treat him," Dr Cullen said.

"He now is not only extremely ill but also has the psychological worry about not knowing whether he will be treated in time."

Mr Jack Parks, deputy unit general manager at Queen Elizabeth, said yesterday that the hospital was being penalized for its efficiency. "Although we are treating more patients we are being told we cannot afford to do so."

Unless extra money was found from the region or the Department of Health and Social Security, the hospital would not be able to reopen the beds, he said.

Leukaemia queries raised

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A leading cancer research team has found that the excess of deaths from childhood leukaemia, near the Sellafield nuclear plant in Cumbria, is repeated for the five nuclear installations built before 1955 by the Ministry of Defence.

Sir Richard Doll said yesterday the studies showed the number of extra deaths from the disease was small, no more than two a year around all five installations combined.

He said the link with radiation was not absolutely certain because scientists did not know how the leukaemia was caused. "It may be due to nuclear waste and it would be criminal not to check."

Sir Richard was presenting the findings of a study into "cancer near nuclear installations", published today in the journal *Nature*.

Areas of high childhood leukaemia are near what are now British Nuclear Fuels plants at Springfields, Lancashire; Capenhurst, Cheshire;

the Ministry of Defence establishment at Aldermaston; the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's establishment at Harwell; and the Amersham International Company in Buckinghamshire.

The scientists, who are all members of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Epidemiology and Clinical Trials Unit, in Oxford, also examined cancer deaths in areas of all the Central Electricity Generating Board's nuclear power stations and the Atomic Energy Authority's site at Winfrith in Dorset, built in 1964.

Every nuclear installation was matched with a control area.

Sir Richard said there was no increase in childhood leukaemia near any nuclear power station. He believed an increase near one station of a type of adult cancer was attributable to other causes.

Deaths from more than 20 types of cancer were examined.

For most, the death rate tended to be lower in areas near to nuclear installations than in the more distant control regions.

There were doubts in adults relating to two malignant diseases of the blood and lymph gland system, multiple myeloma and Hodgkin's disease.

Dr David Forman, a member of the team, said that when childhood leukaemias were excluded, the death rates between control and nuclear areas indicated there were differences in the extent to which people were exposed to cancer-causing agents that had nothing to do with nuclear installations.

The study aimed to clarify figures that caused controversy earlier this year when the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys published a report, *Cancer Incidence and Mortality in the Vicinity of Nuclear Installations, England and Wales, 1959-1980*.

Fordingbridge murder trial

Dawn drinks party 'after killings'

By Michael Horsnell

The girl friend of one of the alleged murderers in the Fordingbridge country house massacre told a court yesterday how, on the day after the killings, he had said: "If only you knew what I had been doing."

Mrs Ruth Smith, a widow who lived with George Daly in Coventry, said that he had made the remark after going "very quiet".

Earlier, she told Winchester Crown Court on the third day of the trial that Daly had returned with John, his brother, and George Stephenson, the handyman dismissed from Burgate House where five members of the wealthy Cleaver family were murdered, to hold a dawn drinks party in the lounge of her terraced house in Elgar Road.

Mrs Smith, mother of three children, one of whom is Mr George Daly, also told how five guns and bullets in leather cases were brought into the three-bedroomed house that night.

In court, she was handed five rifles that police allege were stolen by the three men

from the mansion on the edge of the New Forest on September 1 last year, and identified four of them.

Mrs Smith said that Mr George Daly, aged 25, had lived with her since August 1985. He never worked but used to repair cars in their garage. In August last year he introduced her to Mr George Stephenson, aged 35, who stayed with them until the killings occurred.

On that day the two men said they were going to Bourneham in a hired car and might not be back until the early hours of the following morning. Mr Daly's brother, John, aged 21, went with them. Mr Stephenson had told her he wanted to pick up some clothes and some drinks belonging to him.

At 3am on September 2 she heard them return and was later invited downstairs where she saw bottles of whisky, gin, vodka and wine. She declined the offer of a drink and, in the morning, found them still asleep.

Later, they returned the hire car and, while they were

sharing a meal that evening, she noticed a change in George Daly's mood. "I said to him 'You seem quiet', and I asked him if anything was the matter. He remarked, 'If only you knew what I have been doing'."

Earlier, in a statement, Mr James Cleaver, a chartered accountant and one of Mr George Stephenson's three sons, said that, after being called to the scene of the killings by police, he noted firearms were missing from the gun cupboard in the porch, weapons which he identified nine days later after they had been recovered by police.

The murders of Mr Joseph Cleaver and his invalid wife Hilda, both aged 82, their son Thomas, aged 47, his wife Wendy, aged 46, and Mrs Margaret Murphy, aged 70, a live-in nurse, have all been denied by Mr Stephenson and the brothers George and John Daly. Mr Stephenson and Mr George Daly also deny the rape of Mrs Wendy Cleaver. John Daly has pleaded guilty to rape.

The trial continues today.

Vaccine problems high, court told

By Paul Valley

A leading neurological paediatrician told the High Court yesterday that he had treated more than 100 children who had suffered brain damage after inoculation with the whooping cough vaccine. That was 10 times more than the problems caused by the diphtheria and tetanus prophylactics administered with it in the standard triple vaccine.

Dr John Wilson, a senior lecturer at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, was giving evidence in a test case brought by the parents of Susan Loveday, aged 17, who has been mentally retarded and physically disabled since she was given the vaccine as a baby.

Mr and Mrs Harold Loveday are suing Dr George

Repton, their general practitioner, who they allege was negligent in persisting with a course of the pertussis vaccine in spite of evidence that the baby was abreacting to it.

Dr Wilson dismissed suggestions that a link between the drug and the illness could be coincidental.

The case was adjourned until Monday.

Secret world of City's £2.5m banker

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Christopher Heath, who has emerged in a survey as the highest-paid company director in Britain with earnings of more than £2.5 million, is one of a new breed of City financial experts who have been earning fortunes since the "Big Bang" transformed the way the London money markets are run.

He operates in a world which is discreet and secretive by nature, heading the Far Eastern operations of Baring Brothers, which even by the standards of merchant banks maintains a profile well below the visible horizon.

His name is - or was until he gained his unwanted fame this week - unknown to most of the City, and the only

people who know him well are his colleagues at Baring and the small band of operators who share his specialization of dealing in Far Eastern securities.

Yesterday Mr Heath was about his business in Tokyo, where friends said he spent a large proportion of his time. He appears to fit the successful Yuppie image of the City manipulator, living hand-somely by passing other people's money from right hand to left, except that the Yuppie of instant folklore is supposedly burnt out by 30. Mr Heath is still enjoying success at the age of 41.

After leaving school he joined the London stockbrokers Henderson Crosthwaite, becoming a partner. Two years ago Baring decided to acquire a stockbroking arm, and bought Henderson Crosthwaite's Far Eastern division, the principal asset of which was Mr Heath. He lives with his wife,

Margaret, and one young son in a neo-Georgian town house off the Earls Court Road, in one of the less fashionable areas of Kensington, west London. Mrs Heath said yesterday she was "unable to comment" on her husband's salary.

Mr Heath's principal relaxation is a string of four racehorses.

City experts said yesterday that Mr Heath's extraordinary remuneration was likely to be made up of three elements: a basic salary of between £100,000 and £150,000, the current going rate for City operators of his calibre; an annual bonus based on his performance, which could equal his basic salary; and a long-term bonus payment tied to the performance of his company, which could be virtually unlimited.

City sources said that a high earner like Mr Heath would not necessarily accrue such a large sum every year.

The hippy trail to summer '88



Flounced skirts and folksy prints set the nomadic mood of the Giorgio Armani 1988 collection (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

With gypsy flounces, fluttering gauzy fabrics and a flowering of pretty prints, Italian designers are on the hippy trail for next summer. Even Giorgio Armani, one of the last to wind up the Milan shows, is in a nomadic mood, with full skirts, flounced and caught up at random to show petticoats in a folksy mix of flowery prints and tartans.

But Armani's are sophisticated peasants, their short sarongs wrapped with extra chic, their braided jackets twinkling with subtle sequins and smocking used to make tops cling even more snugly.

Armani has promised more colour to fizz up his favourite spectrum of smoky neutrals. In a series of such delicious sherbert shades as mango and pale peach, a clear duck-egg blue and warm vanilla.

Armani delivered a polished and pretty collection that was the star of season.

It was not just the presence of the miniskirt that signalled a backward glance to the Sixties.

Glaring psychedelic shades of puce and violet, more prints than have been seen for seasons and a revival of crochet, lace and see-through fabrics are the more questionable notions that Italy's design stars are playing with once more.

Christian Lacroix's remarkable fashion presence was at all the shows, and at some more than just spirit. He turned out to applaud Franco Moschino's extravagant and sartorial jokes, which included bustier tops decorated with safety pins.

Experimental cocktail may help to fight Aids

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

An experimental Aids "cocktail" vaccine using one of the body's natural defence hormones is showing promise, according to researchers in Australia.

The first human trials of the vaccine could be launched within 12 months.

The vaccine, developed in Canberra in collaboration with experts from the Pasteur Institute in Paris, appears to protect laboratory mice from the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

It uses a genetically engineered vaccinia virus, com-

bined with a harmless protein from the Aids virus and the gene for interleukin-2, a natural substance which induces the reversion of immune deficiencies.

After vaccination, the vaccinia virus is directed to the immune system to reproduce the Aids protein. The body's system should respond as if a real Aids infection were taking place, producing antibodies which offer protection against future genuine infection.

The results of the research are published today in the scientific journal *Nature*.

SALEROOM

Collectors of antiques greeted by quality

By Huon Mallalieu

The autumn season of antique fairs in London is well under way, and yesterday the latest, the eighth annual fair at the Park Lane Hotel in Piccadilly, was launched by the collector and hotelier, Lady Weinberg, known to other worlds as Anouska Hempel, the actress.

One of the pleasing things about the event is that it does not specialize, except in a concern for quality. Collectors of paintings, furniture, glass, silver, old kitchen equipment or just the decorative, are all likely to be satisfied.

The two main items in a sale of clocks mounted by Christie's yesterday did not fare well, however, being bought in at £95,000 and £78,000. The first was a heavily chased seventeenth-century south German *Prunkuhr*, and the second, a year-running bouille longcase by the great seventeenth-century English maker, Daniel Quare.

A Daniel Quare and Stephen Horsemann movement dating from the reign of Queen Anne, housed in a Regency mahogany case, went to the London dealer R A Lee for £26,400 (estimate £10,000-£20,000). The sale produced a total of £37,227.

At a Christie's sale of antique and modern jewellery a private bidder managed to outstay the professionals, paying £29,700 for a ring with a single brilliant-cut 15.34 carat diamond (estimate £15,000-£20,000).

Portfolio Gold

Red letter day for new student

The sole winner of the Portfolio Gold competition prize of £4,000 had a double celebration yesterday.

Mr Nigel Crack, of Maple Street, Lincoln, discovered he had won the windfall on his first day as a student at Magdalen College, Oxford.

Portfolio cards can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Take-out food earns set place

By Robin Young

One sixth of British adults claim to buy take-away food every week, and more than a third of the adult population have at some time in the past 12 months used a branch of McDonald's.

Restaurants attract only two thirds the custom of take-away outlets, with about a tenth of the population eating in a restaurant each week, but white collar workers are more likely to eat out than the business and professional classes.

These findings come from interviews with a nationally representative sample of 2,000 respondents aged 16 and over, published today. The price of the report, intended for catering companies, is £2,750.

Eight restaurant chains have enough branches to reach a quarter or more of the population. McDonald's has the greatest pulling power, converting two-thirds of those within reach of branches into customers.

The Restaurant Chain Index (Gordon Simmons Research Ltd, 80 St Martin's Lane, London, WC2N 4AA; £2,750).

8.25%

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Mr and Mrs Heath on Grand National day this year with their horse The West Awake, winner of the last race.

CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE

Hurd demands a ban on carrying knives

Shouts of "Rubbish", "Shame" and other dissenting cries marked the continued opposition of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to capital punishment and his refusal to allow it to become a party political matter.

There were shouts of "No" when he said that his experience in Northern Ireland had convinced him that it would help terrorist groups there if they could exploit the execution of their young men. Those in charge of security shared his view, he said.

The conference carried by a big majority an addendum recognizing deep public concern about capital punishment and that it should again be considered by Parliament.

The full motion, accepting that there was no instant solution to the problems of lawlessness and disorder, but calling on the Government to maintain the fight against crime by further strengthening the police, courts and penal system, was carried, with the addendum, but again there were some dissenting votes.

Mr Hurd was cheered when he said that there would be a right of appeal against too lenient sentences, steps to ban firearms and a ban on carrying a knife without good reason or lawful authority.

He also announced a new Broadcasting Standards Authority to focus public concern about violence and sex on television.

He said that there was a faint sign that crime had stabilized in some places where it had been worst, but they should not build too much on that. Figures were too high and could veer to and fro, but at least the latest figures showed that the conference and Government were right — that there was nothing inevitable about rising crime.

Crimes of violence accounted for 4 per cent of crime and about 90 per cent of fear about it. They

must, however, ram home a consistent message that resort to force, intimidation of the weak and use of violence would not be tolerated (applause).

Average sentences for violent crime had increased by about a fifth and, in particular since the Lord Chief Justice had handed down his new guideline judgement last year, terms for convicted rapists had sharply, and rightly, increased.

His own views on capital punishment were not a secret. He had always opposed its restoration (applause and protests).

"I believe that it would make it more difficult to convict guilty men. Certainly, it would make mistakes impossible to put right (applause).

"Certainly, it would create a media circus with the search-

● I do not intend to waver in my opposition to the reintroduction of capital punishment ●

light firmly turned, as in America, on the sentenced person, and his family, as if they were the victims. Those are my views. I do not intend to waver about that and no one in this hall would give me credit or respect were I to do that."

It would certainly be debated in the lifetime of Parliament, and he had no difficulty in accepting the addendum.

It was and must remain a question of judgement for all. The strength of opinion on both sides had to be respected. That was why it could not become a party political issue.

They should keep the disagreement in perspective and not allow it to deflect them from agreeing on what was needed to deal with the much larger body of violent crime which fell short of murder.

That violence could be taken on and beaten.

First, they would act against wayward or soft sentences because too lenient a sentence was as much an affront to justice as too harsh a sentence.

He would ask Parliament, in the Criminal Justice Bill, to give the Attorney General, with the leave of the Court of Appeal, power to appeal against sentence which appeared unduly lenient (applause).

Second, they were taking decisive steps to ban firearms for which there was little or no legitimate sporting use, to tighten controls governing other weapons and to require those with shotguns to keep them safe.

He did not want to impose unnecessary restrictions on the great majority of shooters who took their responsibilities seriously. He had tried to focus on firearms which could do greatest harm in the wrong hands.

Third, they were going to crack down on knives and other offensive weapons, the biggest source of the present increase in violence.

"I propose to ban completely the sale of weapons for which there is no legitimate use, like hand claws, knuckle dusters, or death stars. But that is not enough.

"The carrying of knives has become commonplace. Between 1985 and 1986, in London, the number of street robberies involving use of knives rose by almost a third. I have looked hard for a way to meet the concerns of the police and the public, without a drastic change in the law, but half measures will not do.

"Accordingly, I shall ask Parliament to make it an offence to have in a public place a knife without good reason or lawful authority" (applause).

There would have to be separate charges and there is some doubt as to whether the onus would be on the carrier to prove that he or she had a good reason.

"It is a strong measure, but I fear that no lesser action will halt the growing menace in our



streets. Our citizens, and in particular our young police officers, deserve greater protection from the law than they get at present (applause). Thugs should be warned: Carrying knives will not be tolerated."

The resources of the police had been increased by 45 per cent and their manpower by 18,000. They must not be treated as a political plying. They were not his police, nor Tory police, but belonged to all law-abiding citizens. There was prolonged applause as he thanked them for guarding the Conservatives in Blackpool.

One mis-tut from Mr Roy Hattersley did not make up for the years in which the Labour leadership had sat on the fence about picket line violence or had hummed and hawed about all kinds of breaking the law.

They must stop their opposition to renewal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which had to be renewed each year. He had to use it every month to protect the people from terrorism. It saved lives.

He announced the addition of a further 4,200 places at the

existing prison building programme.

The new Broadcasting Standards Council would be divorced from programme making. It would also have an eye on developments in video, cable and satellite broadcasting. It would not weaken the duties resting with existing broadcast-

● We will act because too lenient a sentence is as much an affront to justice as too harsh a sentence ●

ing authorities, but reinforce them.

"The council will be created as a statutory body as soon as parliamentary time can be found, but I mean to get it up and running, ahead of legislation, with the least possible delay."

The debate was opened by Mr Derek Chichester, Birmingham, who moved the motion.

He said that they should ask those who opposed the restoration of capital punishment that: Where a crime was so horrendous or a criminal so incorrigible that he had no prospect of ever being returned safely to the community, was it really civilized to compel him to languish in prison to the end of his days? (applause)

The law enshrined the right to a fair trial, the right to be sentenced with justice and the right of prisoners to be treated with humanity. But other rights were just as crucial. Everyone had the right to leave their homes without being burgled; all women had the right to be free from the fear of rape and assault; and all children had the right to play and grow without attack, abuse or molestation.

Mr Giles Chichester, Hamersmith, who moved the addendum, said that every time news broke of the latest horrific crime, a wave of frustrated anger washed across the country. People felt that something must be done and that that something was the restoration of capital punishment (applause).

Mr Andrew Stead, Colne Valley, said that when the public discussed it, nine times out of ten they wanted capital punishment reintroduced (applause). The Government should consider the wishes of the conference and the public and face the issue afresh.

Mr Robert Bell, Mid Worcestershire, was received with a mixture of heckling and applause when he said that representatives who called for the restoration of capital punishment were wasting their time because the Home Secretary and most MPs were against it and it was just not going to happen. They should forget that tired debate and look for real answers. The debate should be about gun laws and the easy availability of knives, not hanging.

Professor Ross Harper, from Scotland, said that every offender should be compelled to do community work and use the sweat of their brow rather than being kept in the luxury of a cell. The conference should concentrate on justice, instead of baying for hanging and flogging.

EDUCATION

Baker is adamant on his reforms

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, emphasized his determination to press through education reforms during a speech that won a standing ovation.

After hearing criticisms and apprehensions expressed by speakers from the floor, he said: "I do not intend to delay implementing our policies. I have no intention of changing our manifesto commitments. I will only consider proposals which enhance and complement them."

"I have put my hand to the plough of education reform and I will carry right through to the end of the furrow."

Winding up a debate on education, he said that the Bill that he would bring before the next session of Parliament would be the most important piece of education legislation since 1944.

By allowing schools to opt out of local authority control, it would create a new half-way house between the 93 per cent of schools in the LEA-maintained sector and the 7 per cent in the independent sector.

"Our opt-out policy will also be a lifeline for good grammar schools and good schools threatened by hostile authorities. Parents will be able to shape the ethos and direction of schools."

The Labour Party did not trust people unless it controlled them. Nineteen out of the present twenty-two Shadow Cabinet members had benefited from a system which they wanted to deny to everybody else. "What a bunch of sanctimonious hypocrites" (applause).

He wanted to see a diversity of schools — comprehensive,



Mr Baker: I will not allow any delay.

secondary modern, grammar, church, independent, city technology colleges and grant-maintained schools.

"Under our Government we have a Prime Minister and an education secretary who are united in their determination to drive through the changes which parents, employers and the public want to see" (applause).

Turning to the national curriculum and those worried that there would be no time for a second foreign language or classics, he said that there would be scope for such subjects where schools wanted to provide them. Religious education must be provided.

It was also essential that children were brought up in a moral framework so that they could acquire values emphasizing honesty, responsibility, self-reliance and a concern for the less fortunate.

Schools and teachers could not do that alone. This was a partnership in which every parent and every family must play a part.

Teachers should have no fears that the national curriculum would stifle their professionalism. On the contrary, the abilities and creativity would be called upon to meet the new challenging standards.

A motion urging the Government to implement its manifesto pledges without delay was overwhelmingly carried.

Business today

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will reply to a debate on economic policy and taxation today. Health and social security, the EEC and foreign affairs, and trade and industry are other topics, and representatives have also chosen to debate a motion supporting Government policy, restricting left-wing council spending on political propaganda.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Tory unionists attack new law proposal

Government proposals to protect workers who defy a secret ballot for strike action were strongly criticized by Conservative trade unionists yesterday during a debate on trade unions and industrial relations.

But the minister, Mr Patrick Nicholas, Under Secretary of State for Employment, who was given a standing ovation after replying to the debate, defended the fourth set of trade union legislation since 1979 as being grounded on experience and not on doctrinaire prejudice.

Mr Nicholas said: "It has never been, and will never be,

this Government's policy to hammer trade unions, just because they are trade unions".

He added that most members of the TUC had a long way to go before they faced hard truths. "Trade unions have a role and the right to carry it out, but they do not have the right to punish where they cannot persuade, to coerce where they cannot convince."

The proposals, in an Employment Bill to be published at the start of the next parliamentary session, will abolish the mechanism allowing an approved closed shop; set up a commis-

sioner for union members' rights; provide for regular elections for key union offices and the use of secret postal ballots in union elections; and prevent misuse of funds.

But the proposal that attracted the most criticism will allow a union member to continue working despite a majority vote for a strike and without fear of being disciplined by his union.

Mr Ian McCann, from Enfield North, said that that proposal was rightly opposed by the Conservative Trade Unionists' Association and that it was time

to consolidate earlier reforms. "The Labour Party call this a secret charter and there is some truth in it. If you belong to a club you must obey the rules of that club or be disciplined or possibly expelled."

But Mr Nicholas said that an employee faced many obligations in addition to his membership of a trade union, including those to his employer and family or those in his care. "And who are trade union officials to dictate to a person which of those conflicting obligations should ultimately prevail?"

The measures would also

make unions more cautious about calling a strike.

Mr Sid Cordle, from Sheffield Hallam, said that this measure would have made no real difference to the miners' strike. "The best way to help the heroes, like the working miners and others who have stood up against union anarchy, is to make it unnecessary for them to become heroes in the first place."

A motion endorsing the Government's policy of continuing with further trade union reform was carried unanimously.

AGRICULTURE

Cereal production to be curbed by Government

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, outlined yesterday imminent Government plans to curb cereal production as he roundly denounced the huge and increasing costs of European food surpluses.

Storage and disposal of the surpluses cost £250 million a week or £13 billion a year, nearly half of the entire EEC budget. "This is a huge waste of economic resources. It has to be tackled firmly and tackled soon," he told the conference.

The conference carried a motion demanding price restraint in the CAP.

The Government, Mr Mac-

Gregor said, hoped to take a fifth of cereal land out of production through a voluntary set-aside scheme. A consultation paper for farmers would be issued soon with details of the scheme finalized by next April.

The aim was to encourage farmers to find alternative uses for farmland, such as leisure, tourism or light industry, through payment of incentives.

Legislation would also be introduced shortly to subsidize farmers planting woodlands under the new Farm Woodlands Scheme.

HOUSING

Moves to ease the plight of homeless

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Two radical and politically contentious new moves to ease the immediate homelessness crisis were signalled by Mr William Waldegrave, the housing minister, yesterday.

In his speech to the Tory conference he hinted strongly at legislation to force left-wing councils sitting on empty properties to release them to outside bodies.

Twenty-five thousand "households" were in bed-and-breakfast accommodation. In London alone there were 26,000 empty council houses.

"By what right do the Camdens and the rest of them keep good publicly owned houses out of the hands of organizations that would put them back to work for the homeless?" he asked.

He also spoke of a suggestion by Sir George Young, a former cities' help officer who needed to move to find work, help the young, the old and the homeless.

The conference carried unanimously a motion deploring the decline in the private rented sector. It urged the Government to review the Rent Acts as soon as possible and to give greater safeguards to owners who were discouraged from letting.

Mr Nick Robinson, of the Young Conservatives, said that those who wished to rent should be subsidized as home owners were subsidized. That would help, for instance, young people who had nowhere to live.

ment was looking at "radical ideas".

Mr Waldegrave declined to say later whether either idea would be included in the forthcoming Housing Bill, but he said that nothing had been ruled out. It was a matter of timing.

"I want to make clear that we are aware there's a short-term problem as well as a longer term problem," he told journalists.

Winding up the debate, Mr Waldegrave said that the Tory election victory meant that there was hope for those who in the future would have lived in damp, decaying and dirty private accommodation. He had seen a fine old gentleman living alone in a basement like that and had thought to himself "If you want a monument to the Rent Acts, look about you."

The freeing of new lets from those Acts would reverse the decline of investment in older cities: help those who needed to move to find work; help the young, the old and the homeless.

The conference carried unanimously a motion deploring the decline in the private rented sector. It urged the Government to review the Rent Acts as soon as possible and to give greater safeguards to owners who were discouraged from letting.

Mr Nick Robinson, of the Young Conservatives, said that those who wished to rent should be subsidized as home owners were subsidized. That would help, for instance, young people who had nowhere to live.

Conference reports by John Winder, Derek Barnett, Barbara Day and Peter Mulligan

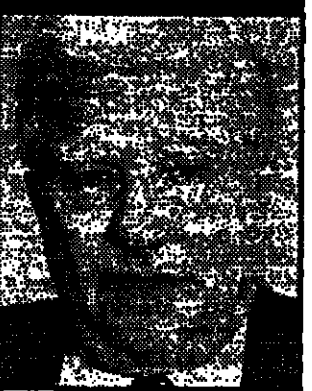
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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

One of the most remarkable political achievements over the past year has been the Conservative recovery on education. Little more than 12 months ago this was one of the issues which seemed likely to cause the party most embarrassment in the election. Yet first it was defused and now the Government has seized the initiative.

That can be attributed partly to the misjudgement of the teachers in overplaying their hand, but still more to the Government's own efforts in producing new and original proposals in response to the widespread anxiety in the country about the education system.

So it was perhaps hardly surprising that Mr Kenneth Baker's speech yesterday was the most impressive that he has yet delivered to any Conservative conference and one of the most successful that any minister has so far made at this conference.

In the long run that may be

highly sensitive politically and essential in the national interest. The present system is not performing satisfactorily either in social or in economic terms.

The need for change is therefore recognized and the general thrust of Mr Baker's proposals is not seriously contested within the Conservative Party. But the details matter a great deal.

I would not go so far as to say that they were examined rigorously in yesterday's debate. But it was certainly better than the discussion of the poll tax the day before. Misgivings were expressed, especially the fear that the Government might be too much influenced by its determination to correct the misdeeds of a handful of extreme left-wing Labour authorities.

There was some anxiety that the national curriculum which Mr Baker intends may be too restrictive and impose too much control from the centre. That is clearly a danger to be guarded against. But

a national curriculum is in principle a useful instrument for securing reasonable standards in schools, and it ought not to be too difficult to strike a sensible balance.

Useful though it may be, however, a national curriculum cannot be the main instrument for that purpose. At last year's conference Mr Baker put the emphasis on increasing parental control in schools. This year he concentrated upon extending parental choice.

It was a wise switch of emphasis. The trouble with parental control is that one cannot always be sure which parents will exercise it, whether they will be sufficiently well informed or sufficiently representative.

There is, it is true, a greater chance of involvement in this than in other spheres of activity because so many parents are deeply worried about the quality of education that their children are receiving. Yet parental control is still a gamble that could have very

different effects in different areas.

But parental choice is not only a right that ought in principle to be extended so far as is practicable. It can also be a means of bringing pressure to bear for the improvement of standards.

That is what matters. If the Government can really bring about a general improvement in educational standards it will be an achievement that will rank alongside its control of trade union powers in its first two terms. Like that accomplishment, it would yield both political and practical dividends.

The impressive feature of this conference is the extent to which it is concerned with such issues. One might indeed wish that Mr Baker's proposals had been subjected to closer analysis. Even more than most Conservative conferences it is skirting round the dangerous areas of debate. But at least it is focusing upon the future rather than simply celebrating the past.

صبراً من الامل

Firms heed minister's message on inner cities

By David Walker and Ruth Gledhill

The appeal by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Trade and Industry, for private enterprise to boost the inner cities may increase the growing volume of work already done by large companies.

Mr Tim Baldwin of the London Enterprise Agency, said yesterday that companies increasingly realized the need for stimulating the local economy.

The agency is backed by 17 big companies. Each make a minimum commitment of £25,000; they also loan equipment and second executives for training and business start-up projects.

Sponsors include Barclays Bank, IBM (UK), Shell, the Midland Bank, Sainsbury, Marks and Spencer, BP, John Laing, the builders, Legal and General, Lex Services, Tate and Lyle, the Wellcome Foundation and United Biscuits.

Many of these are committed to other local projects.

Barclays Bank supports 150 local enterprise agencies with Project Full Employ, concentrating on ethnic minorities. The bank has committed £150,000 to three specific projects in Middlesbrough, Liverpool and Waltham Forest, north-east London. It also gives Youth Action awards, for which £350,000 was recently set aside.

A spokesman for National Westminster Bank, which allocates 1 per cent of its pre-tax profit to a community programme, said he welcomed the Government's approach, but added that inner city initiatives required the full cooperation of local communities and should not be "imposed" from above.

NatWest has been involved in community service projects for several years. In 1982 it committed £1.25 million to its own inner cities initiative. It has since seconded staff to act as business development managers in Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool and Wolverhampton. One of the aims is to assist blacks wanting to set up businesses.

The bank pays for that, and its extensive involvement with enterprise agencies and Government task forces by a voluntary levy on its pre-tax profits of 1 per cent, distributed among community projects, the arts and sports sponsorship. This year the sum totalled £9.5 million. Next year it is expected to rise to £11 million.

Big utilities are also heavily involved with inner city projects. A British Gas spokesman said that in the North-west alone, its inner city reclamation and development investment totalled £50 million, including participation in a 400-acre scheme in St Helens (in conjunction with Pilkington, the glass manufacturers and the local authority), the redevelopment of Preston Docks, into which it has moved its area headquarters, and a £750,000 reclamation scheme on the Bradford Road in Manchester.

British Gas also sponsors local enterprise agencies in Greater Manchester and Lancashire. The list of businesses involved in inner cities is formidable.

● Technology colleges. Several firms have offered sponsorship for new colleges.

They are Dixons, the High Street electronics retailer, offering help to set up a CTC in South Yorkshire; Harris Queensway, hoping to set up in south London; Lucas Industry and Hanson Trust, backing a college in Solihull, but recruiting from inner Birmingham; and businessman Harry Djanogly in Nottinghamshire. Each have promised a minimum of £1 million.

● Task Forces. A total of five business executives have already been seconded to task forces. One from BAT Industries - works in the Department of Trade and Industry's inner cities directorate. A recent example of secondment was the appointment of Mr Ian Rosser from the Trustee Savings Bank to lead the task force in Spitalfields, east London.

In the St Paul's area of Bristol, many firms are participating through the Industrial Society in a pilot scheme to improve education and training opportunities and stimulate entrepreneurship.

They include accountants Arthur Andersen, Bendix Ltd, British Aerospace, Cadbury Ltd, Harveys, the wine shippers, Lloyd Bank, the Post Office, Rolls Royce and W.H. Smith.

A parallel scheme in North Peckham in Southwark, central London, involves Argyle Stores, the Body Shop, Boots, the chemist, Currys, Nabisco, Peat Marwick McLintock, Reuters Holdings and the Thames Water Authority.

The Ford Motor Company has seconded one of its managers to the area's task force. Across London, the Midland Bank is involved with the North Kensington task force and is trying to establish an enterprise agency there.

● Company activity. Individual companies are involved in a great array of projects. Farmac, based in the West Midlands, has taken part in preliminary discussions about sponsoring a city technology college.

Royal Insurance has pledged to give at least 0.5 per cent of its UK pre-tax profits to community projects. It has four senior managers on full-time secondment to projects in Nottinghamshire, Liverpool, Portsmouth and Manchester.

Its inner city property developments include the £48 million Pavillions project in Birmingham and the award-winning £10 million Caverns Walk project in Liverpool.

Royal gave £10,000 last year to enterprise agencies around the country, £10,000 to a training centre in The Wirral and £1,400 to Inward, the regional development authority for the north-west.

United Biscuits donated £800,000 to community projects last year and has seconded staff to programmes. KP Foods, a subsidiary, also has work-experience and employment projects running at its factories in Rotherham, Halifax, Teeside, Grimsby and Ashby de la Zouch.

The Association of British Insurers has given free advice to inner city companies, putting 40 in touch with possible insurers, and currently assisting a further 20.

Final glorious days of eccentric's dream house

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

The shade of Stephen Tennant, painter, diarist and leisureed gentleman of the thirties, may well shudder when hordes of collectors start rifling through the contents of his beloved home, Wilsford Manor, Wiltshire, tomorrow on the first public preview day before Sotheby's auction.

It is estimated that the sale will fetch £350,000. But the house will have its final burst of glamour before its contents are dispersed for ever.

Billed breathlessly by the auction house as "an English eccentric's dream house", where artistic and literary parties were held and where guests included Cecil Beaton, Siegfried Sassoon and Rex Whistler, the house was also, from the 1950s, the home of a recluse.

"I think if he knew what was going on he'd turn in his grave", said Mrs Sylvia Blandford, Tennant's nurse and housekeeper during the last years of his life. "He was such a private person, he didn't like anyone touching his belongings."

Mr John Culme, Sotheby's expert in charge of the sale, said: "I don't think he would mind. The fact that we are breaking up the house was entirely his own fault, because he didn't leave a will".

Tennant began his days at Wilsford, a rambling maze of a house owned by the wealthy Tennant family since 1906, in 1931, when he spent a year recovering from tuberculosis. Dislodged during the war, when the house became a Red Cross centre, he returned subsequently to begin a prolonged orgy of interior decorating.

Over the years, the rooms were repeatedly redecorated. What re-



Above, two interior design students, Chloe Alberton (left) and Rebekah Sieff, in the morning room of Wilsford Manor. Right, a photographic portrait of Tennant by Cecil Beaton from 1927/28, with an Epstein bust of him in the background. (Photographs: Stephen Markeson).

mains today is predominantly papered in embossed patterns resembling those found in Indian restaurants, with classical swags along the top. Skinned animal furs lie strewn on bedroom floors; light fixtures drip with glittering glass.

Outside, the garden-grotto is peopled with statuary: a putti here and a dolphin there. Alongside one path run a row of classical faces. The

most recurrent objects around the house are beds: *chaise-longues*; a day bed in pink satin in the library; the night bed in which one presumes (but doesn't dare ask) he died.

But the main theme of Wilsford is the sea shell. It provides the shape of chairs (pair of Gesso Grotto arm chairs circa 1910 estimated at £1,500 to £2,000); it appears in scallop form around the cornice of

the drawing room. Actual shells are crammed into numerous glass cupboards.

"He first became aware of their beauty in Italy with Siegfried Sassoon in 1928", Mr Culme said. "They then became associated in his mind with Sassoon".

Two signed letters from Sassoon to Tennant, one signed "Your loving Kangaroo" (estimate £200 to £300) are among the lots.



IBM announces its first computer show in 76 years.

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CAA investigates 29 air accidents

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A formal inquiry is to be launched into the growing number of light aircraft accidents in Britain.

The Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday that it was setting up the inquiry after 29 fatal accidents were recorded in the first nine months of this year, compared with 19 in the whole of 1986.

"The fatal accident record for light aircraft operated by private individuals and flying clubs has shown a disturbing increase this year", Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the authority's chairman, said.

"I am sure that everyone involved in private flying must share my concern and will wish to take whatever steps are necessary to improve the situation."

Preliminary studies of the accidents so far show no pattern. Theories that lack of proper training, old and badly serviced aircraft or even weather conditions have caused the crashes, have not been proved.

Mr John Ward, chairman and secretary of the General Aviation Safety Committee said: "We can see no pattern in the incidents. It just seems to have been a bad year with

every accident different and often unpredictable human behaviour to blame."

One of the areas that the authority's inquiry will focus on is the standard of training given to private pilots. Demands for new pilots to join the rapidly expanding commercial airlines are blamed for denuding many flying clubs of their most senior instructors.

At the same time, pilots who gain a private licence are required to fly only a minimum of five hours a year to keep it. This has led to some concern in the industry that they may become "rusty", though as yet there is no evidence that this has been a factor in the crashes.

So far this year, 46 people have been killed in the 29 recorded fatal accidents.

The authority is determined to establish whether there is any common thread which could be used to introduce tighter regulations.

Every detail of each fatal accident - from the age and experience of the pilot, to the condition of the aircraft and the weather at the time - will be fed into a computer for analysis.

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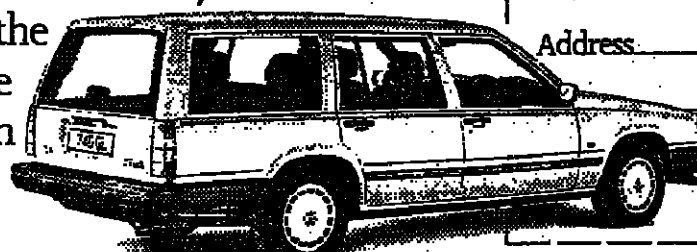
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صوتنا من الامم

Scarman criticizes 'old boy network' selection of judges

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A new more formal system for appointing and training judges which would enable solicitors as well as barristers to be chosen with far wider consultation than at present is being urged by Lord Scarman, the retired law lord.

"We have got to revamp the judicial selection process", he said yesterday. "It is just not good enough to rely on what the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice or the Master of the Rolls tell someone privately."

Some "terrible mistakes" had been made because of misunderstandings between those people or the failure of one to attend a meeting. "It is all too haphazard; an old-boy network when we have grown out of school."

The present system worked well when the profession was much smaller and the senior judges knew the able candidates.

However, there was a need to open up the selection process, perhaps by creating a panel of people to act as a judicial appointments committee to advise the Lord Chancellor on suitable candidates.

There was also a need to

broaden the experience of judges and to create a system to draw them "from a bigger sector of society".

Lord Scarman said he would like to see a more formalized training for judges, perhaps under the Judicial Studies Board, which barristers and solicitors could opt for at an early stage in their careers.

At present lawyers are appointed to the bench late in their careers and only then receive specific training. Lord Scarman said lawyers could opt early on for a training programme which involved part-time work as a crown court recorder and work in the county courts.

Solicitors, as well as barristers, should be eligible. "I don't believe in fusion of the two branches of the profession; even in the United States, for example, some lawyers are going to do the advocacy and others the work that a solicitor here does."

However, there was room to widen the pool of potential candidates for the judiciary to include solicitors.

Lord Scarman's comments come at a time when the Bar is thinking of setting up a com-

mittee to look at the system of appointing judges and in particular at a more formalized, early training scheme for potential judges.

His comments also coincide with the publication today of *Judges*, by Mr David Pannick, a barrister and Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, which also urges an overhaul of the present system.

He also favours the setting up of a Judicial Appointments Committee to advise the Lord Chancellor in place of the present "lottery of legal promotion".

There are important disadvantages to selecting judges chiefly from the ranks of practising barristers, he says. There were few eligible barristers willing and able to serve on the bench and in recent years solicitors' firms have been attracting more of the brighter law students from the Bar.

"As the number of judges continues to expand, it will become increasingly difficult to find sufficient barrister candidates with the necessary judicial skills."

Judges by David Pannick (OUP, £12.95).

Shipyard fortunes rise with a frigate

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

A frigate that saved a shipyard from dying and 1,700 workers from losing their jobs was launched yesterday at Cammell Laird on the Mersey.

HMS Campbelltown, a £70 million Type 22 frigate, is the latest achievement at the Birkenhead yard which has seen a turn around in three years.

The yard, part of the Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering (VSEL) company privatized in January last year, will be competing with the other leading British shipyard for the new government Type 23 frigate orders announced on Monday by Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence.

Three years ago Cammell Laird was locked in a 14-week strike and it was predicted that the yard would close. But 1,700 workers crossed the picket lines and were rewarded by Mr Michael Heseltine, then Secretary of State for Defence, who gave them HMS Campbelltown to build.

Dr Rodney Leach, VSEL's chief executive, said yesterday that the workers had gone "right to the brink of the precipice, had looked over and then turned back". Cammell Laird was flourishing with a government contract for three diesel-electric submarines.

HMS Campbelltown making her way down the slipway yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Inquest's verdict on capsized of Syneta

A verdict of misadventure was returned by an inquest jury at Hull yesterday on seamen killed when a fish oil tanker capsized.

The Humberside coroner, Mr Trevor Green, said a proper look-out was not being kept aboard the Gibraltar-registered Syneta which ran into rocks off Iceland on Christmas Day last year.

Six Britons were lost, the relief master, Captain Richard Cape, aged 49; the second mate, Mark Brooks, aged 23; the chief engineer, Robert Wakefield, aged 37; the cook, Kevin Dixon, aged 30; all of Hull, whose bodies were recovered. They drowned and it was presumed that the senior second mate Christopher Campbell, aged 45, and Alan Brown, aged 29, who are missing, suffered the same fate.

The Syneta was sailing from Liverpool to an Icelandic fjord. At no time during radio communications did the captain or other officer state that any of the navigation instruments were not in working order and no reference was made to any problem with the crew, said the coroner.

"There was no indication or explanation of why the ship was aground", he added. Medical reports indicated that neither drink nor drugs had been taken by any of the crew in measurable quantities.

BBC voice to China boosted

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

BBC broadcasts are being heard clearly for the first time all over north and central China after the opening of a new 20 million relay station, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mr John Tusa, managing editor of the corporation's external broadcasting, who is in China to mark the opening, said yesterday: "I am gratified the BBC signal is coming into China so powerfully. It has dramatically improved reception for tens of millions of people and it will be fascinating to see from the figures how many become regular BBC listeners."

The BBC has offered two training attachments to staff from Radio Peking, with the trainees spending two months working in London at Bush House.

Until now listeners in Peking and Shanghai have had BBC programmes dropped out by Radio Moscow and the Voice of America because the nearest relay station in Singapore provided patchy reception, except in southern China.

While Chinese authorities have made no public comment about the service flowing from the new relay station, Mr Tusa told newsmen he understood that unofficially China welcomed the improved BBC signal as giving people "more listening choice".

China, unlike the Soviet Union, has never jammed BBC broadcasts and BBC Chinese language broadcasts have been almost doubled to two and a half hours.

Mr Tusa said: "Every country uses information about the world in the way it deems appropriate. I think China's attitude is consistent with the open door policy."

"The right to hear information is one of life's great freedoms. We have never allowed our respect to political pressure in the past and we do not intend to start doing so."

Relatives try to clear Ryan debt

Relatives of the Hungerford gunman, Michael Ryan, have made claims on the life insurance policies of the killer and his mother.

Ryan's uncle, Mr Stephen Fairbrass and his wife Nora, of Calne, Wiltshire, are said to have made the claims at the Reading office of Prudential Assurance to clear debts left by Ryan and his mother, who was one of her son's 16 victims.

If there is any money left, it will be given to the Hungerford Tragedy Fund.

Tube was left inside patient

Staff at Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup, south-east London, left a 30in medical tube inside a patient after her stomach was pumped, the High Court was told yesterday. The tube infected a lung.

Mrs Kim Pask, aged 30, of Orpington, is claiming damages from Bexley Health Authority which admits liability.

Boy's £89,854

Daniel Di Salvo, aged seven, who suffered brain damage when a car driven by his grandfather, Mr Patrick Hughes, crashed in Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire, in May 1982, won £89,854 damages in the High Court in London yesterday. Mr Hughes admitted liability.

Man escapes

Police yesterday admitted they were hunting for Nicolas Maria Chastany, aged 44 and remanded in London on a charge of illegally importing cocaine, after he escaped from a police cell at Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

Welsh victory

Protesters have won their battle to have fixed penalty notices for motoring offences issued in the Welsh language.

Teachers 'feel job a waste of time'

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

White teachers at a predominantly Asian school in Bradford have a low opinion of their pupils and believe their teaching efforts are largely a waste of time, a survey has shown.

Mr David Shepherd, a teacher at the school, questioned each of his 28 colleagues about their attitudes to 550 pupils aged nine to 13, most from Pakistan.

He says their overall view was negative. "A preponderance of comments referred to the pupils as apathetic. Staff said pupils tended to attach little importance to school, they lacked interest, did not do homework and were resistant to teachers' efforts."

Mr Shepherd, whose research is published in the *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, says it is not meant to bolster the views of Mr Ray Honeyford, the head teacher of a similar school in Bradford who was accused of being a racist and forced to resign.

He says most of his colleagues blamed the pupils' low performance on their poor command of English. "The chief reason for this, proffered by all staff, was that in an effectively all-Asian school,

English was not used outside the classroom to any great extent, and informal talk within the classroom was frequently in the first language.

"There was great dissatisfaction with this state of affairs, and rather a sense of helplessness."

The teachers also believed that the pupils were handicapped by their parents' limited view of education and fear of "Westernization".

One teacher is quoted as saying: "With things as they stand now, there's no solution. You're banging your head against a brick wall."

"In my class now there are five or six who are getting something from the work. The rest are floundering. They haven't got the basics. I'm trying to do an impossible job, to teach them with no proper foundation."

"A lot come to school just to pass the time. Their home life is more important to them — the mosque and anything to do with their own culture."

Mr Shepherd says teachers and pupils at the school, to which he gives a fictitious name, have a "low degree of mutual understanding."

Eurotunnel: how to get into the Act.



In July, Parliament passed the Channel Tunnel Act. A few days later, the Channel Tunnel Treaty was ratified by the British and French governments.

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WORLD SUMMARY

Gunman kills Syrian diplomat

Brussels — A Syrian diplomat was shot dead outside his home here yesterday (Richard Owen writes). Police said a gunman fired several shots at Mr Antonios Hanna, aged 38, the First Secretary at the Syrian Embassy, before leaping into a car driven by an accomplice.

Yesterday's assassination appeared to be the result of an internal Syrian feud, but has embarrassed Belgium when the EEC is slowly restoring links with Damascus.

An anonymous telephone caller claimed responsibility for the murder on behalf of the "Syrian Mujahidin". It was not clear whether this referred to the Muslim Brotherhood, the best-known underground opposition to President Assad, or another more shadowy organization.

The caller described Mr Hanna as "an agent of the secret services".

Haywood Gaza gun trial delay battle

Stockholm — The appeal of Simon Haywood, the Life Guards captain sentenced to five years in prison for drugs smuggling, was adjourned for two weeks yesterday to allow a court-appointed prosecutor to investigate claims that the principal witness against him made a deal with Swedish police (Michael McCarthy writes).

Haywood's lawyers claim that Forbes Mitchell, a Scot jailed for seven years after pleading guilty to drugs smuggling, had boasted of being given a shorter sentence in return for his evidence against Haywood.

Berlin's refugees stay

Berlin (Reuters) — West Berlin has decided to grant residence permits to all Lebanese and Palestinian refugees with children and avoid sending them back to an uncertain fate in Lebanon, city officials said yesterday.

They said the city government had also agreed to give permits to foreigners who arrived in West Berlin before January 1981 and were still waiting for their asylum cases to be heard. Lebanese or Palestinians living in West Berlin with children on October 1, 1987 would receive residence papers.

Curbs in Manila Politburo visitor

Manila — President Aquino of the Philippines yesterday ordered the closure of up to four anti-government radio stations in the latest move to try to stop right-wing attempts to overthrow her Government (Humphrey Hawksley writes).

The decision was made at the weekly morning Cabinet meeting, after which the presidential spokesman, Mr Teodoro Benigno, said there were fears of another coup attempt before the end of the month. For the past few days extra troops have been deployed at strategic points around the capital.

Secretive peace talks

Madrid — Representatives of the Guatemalan Government and of guerrilla forces opposing it sat down together for the first time here yesterday for talks aimed at bringing peace to their country (Harry Debelius writes). All details about the meetings, even the exact location where they are taking place or the hour which they began, are secret. The talks were preceded by a ceasefire, which began last Friday.

Foreign team in Rio to help radiation victims

From Mac Mangolis, Rio de Janeiro

Answering an emergency appeal from Brasilia to the International Atomic Energy Agency, five specialists in nuclear medicine have arrived in Brazil to help with the treatment of more than two dozen victims of accidental radiation poisoning.

The specialists, from the Soviet Union, the United States, Argentina and West Germany, arrived a week after a still unknown number of people in Goiânia, in central Brazil, were contaminated by caesium 137. The authorities confirmed 34 people had been admitted to hospital and 10 were in intensive care in Rio de Janeiro.

The accident occurred last week came after a bizarre series of events, starting with a break-in at a boarded-up medical laboratory in Goiânia. Two men stole a cylindrical object, which they sold to a nearby scrap yard. There, the cylinder, in fact a piece of equipment used in radiation therapy for treating cancer, was broken open. To the fascination of curiosity seekers, the cylinder harboured a capsule that contained a bluish substance, caesium, which glowed like carnival glitter when rubbed on the skin.

Several people received severe burns, and nose and throat lesions.

Trivial pursuits in race to succeed Nakasone

From David Watts Tokyo

The competition just starting in Japan to be the next Prime Minister is like a game of Machiavellian blind man's buff.

Candidates are officially registered only today but the stuff of such campaigns — rumour, intuition, snatches of golf-course conversation, Chinese proverbs which supposedly reveal a candidate's intentions, and secret meetings in Tokyo's traditional Japanese restaurants — has been filling newspapers and magazines for months.

There are no allegations of weekends with beautiful young ladies. In male chauvinist Japan such things are neither here nor there. All the candidates come from one party and have optimistic programmes which promise wealth and domestic peace based on strong friendship with the United States.

The outcome is unpredictable, given that it may be governed by the personal preferences of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister. Two things, however, are clear. The average salaried worker has no say despite regular opinion polls; and the whole process is quintessentially Japanese — an irrational, intuitive amalgam based on

human relations, regional and university loyalties and the trivia of daily life.

The three candidates who will register today are Mr Noboru Takeshita, the former Minister of Finance; Mr Shintaro Abe, Foreign Minister until last year; and the present Minister of Finance, Mr Kiichi Miyazawa. A current political joke, with more than an element of truth, holds that if Japan has domestic problems it needs Mr Takeshita as Prime Minister; if it has foreign policy problems then Mr Miyazawa is the man; and if there are no problems at all, Mr Abe would be perfect.

The wags have thereby

identified the strengths of the three men: Mr Takeshita is the best party man and most able at manoeuvring on the domestic political scene; Mr Abe is so bland and inoffensive that he might make an excellent compromise candidate who would offend no one; and Mr Miyazawa is an intellectual with superb English and a command of the ways of the world, politically and economically.

The three candidates will not now have to go through a primary election, because at the last minute a "spoiler" candidate, Mr Susumu Nakai, protégé of the former Prime Minister, Mr Kakuei

Tanaka, withdrew. This has increased the likelihood of a negotiated succession in which Mr Nakasone's opinion could count for a great deal.

In terms of support within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Mr Takeshita would be able to command the biggest single faction if it came to a vote, capturing some 114 votes of his own supporters and former supporters of Mr Tanaka. But with a successful candidate's need to win the support of a majority of the members of the 445-seat Parliament, no single candidate can win on the strength of his own faction.

For the purpose of the

initial vote, at least, there appears to be a tactical alliance between Mr Takeshita and the factions of Mr Abe, 86-strong, and Mr Toshio Komoto, a former minister, with 31. Between them they command a majority of the Diet and Mr Komoto thus finds himself in charge of the swing vote. A vote could be taken by the middle of this month although the Prime Minister does not officially leave office until October 31.

Mr Nakasone, who would like to see anyone in office but Mr Takeshita, would clearly favour a negotiated succession which he could influence in the hopes of becoming the new "kingmaker" of Japanese politics in succession to Mr Tanaka, eliminated from that role by a stroke. Mr Miyazawa, too, would like the succession to be fixed by negotiation because, on the first vote at any rate, his factional support would be weak in the Diet but his economic acumen makes him the favourite candidate of the business community.

But just to add to the confusion and make the possibility of a compromise solution appear more likely, a recent television opinion poll put Mr Abe in front with 22.1 per cent; Mr Miyazawa at 18 per cent; and Mr Takeshita at 5.1 per cent.



A Tibetan woman clearing away debris outside a police station in Lhasa yesterday. The station was set on fire by protesters against Chinese rule

Chinese police sweep through Tibetan capital

Hundreds detained in Lhasa

From Robert Grievess, Chengdu

As many as 600 Tibetans may have been rounded up in Lhasa and its suburbs since the weekend in a Chinese police sweep of the embattled capital of the Tibetan Autonomous Region, sources in Chengdu said yesterday.

Between 200 and 300 Tibetans had been rounded up between Sunday and Monday afternoons, according to the sources who included travellers arriving here from Lhasa. Since then the figures may have increased to 600.

The drive was aimed at clearing the city, which has a population of 310,000, of potential demonstrators for yesterday's 37th anniversary of the Chinese occupation of Tibet, travellers from Lhasa said. "The atmosphere was very tense," said a German woman. "Everyone expected something was going to happen."

On Tuesday afternoon at about 4pm, 80 monks from the 330-monk Sera Monastery outside Lhasa tried to march into the city. Some 60 monks were arrested, according to travellers' accounts, and as many as 20 fled into the surrounding hills.

In the evening, five trucks loaded with Tibetans and perhaps two foreigners were seen heading towards Sera Monastery and possibly to prisons outside of town.

Chinese officials continue to be suspicious of foreigners in Tibet or attempting to go to Tibet. That is because four foreigners were reportedly seen throwing rocks at police along with Tibetan demonstrators on October 1.

A 10-day ban on travel by individual foreigners into Lhasa entered its second day yesterday. On Tuesday, Herr

Peking — China issued a strong protest to the United States yesterday, accusing it of interfering in Chinese internal affairs after last week's riot in Lhasa (AFP reports). The US Senate voted on Tuesday to link future supply of arms to China to assurances that Peking is acting in good faith and in a timely manner to resolve human rights issues in Tibet.

Jürgen Kahl, a correspondent for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* of Munich, was barred from boarding a plane in Chengdu that was bound for Lhasa. And, in the middle of the night on Tuesday, Chinese police made a sweep of Lhasa's low-budget hotels and even the upmarket hotels as they checked foreigners' passports.

Yesterday truckloads of People's Armed Police carrying machine-guns cruised the streets. A 10 pm curfew for Tibetans remained in effect.

In addition groups of more than five Tibetans walking along the streets of the city were banned.

The city's main monasteries, including Sera and Drepung, continued to be out-of-bounds for foreigners while the city remains off limits to monks. Police armed with machine-guns also occupied the Jokhang temple in the Barkhor, Lhasa's central market place.

It is still unclear why the Tibetan Buddhist monks chose this particular time to demonstrate. There are many theories, ranging from the fact that two Tibetans, labelled freedom fighters by Lhasa residents, were executed last month to an alleged eclipse of a rainbow that signalled the monks to take action.

Whatever theory one chooses, the monks appear to be the key to the troubles in Lhasa. "The monks are not

afraid of anything," said one American just out of Lhasa. "They figure they will come back from the dead as a dog, or, if their case is just, as something better."

DELHI: The Dalai Lama was less harsh on China on the happenings in Tibet than expected in his specially-convened press conference at Dharmasala, his headquarters. He said that he wanted "a negotiated settlement" of the Tibetan tangle (Kuldip Nayar writes).

Explaining why he was not attacking China, the Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists, said that he had direct links with Peking which he did not want to break at this stage.

The Dalai Lama, who has restrictions placed upon him for staying in India, made more critical comments on his recent trip to America.

An ugly end to Moscow protests

From Christopher Walker Moscow

The severe limits of Kremlin liberalization were demonstrated in ugly fashion yesterday when uniformed police and plain-clothed thugs acting for the KGB broke up two tiny, peaceful demonstrations designed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Soviet Constitution.

On both occasions the demonstrators and Western reporters, who had learnt of the protests in advance, were heavily outnumbered by the security forces.

Barly KGB men, posing unconcerningly as aggrieved members of the Soviet public, ripped the placards which the protesters had strapped to their chests in order to increase the chances of their message being seen before they disappeared.

The first protest lasted for only seven minutes before its two instigators, Mr Anatoly Petrunovskiy and Mr Vladimir Semenov, were bundled into a waiting police van. There are part of a new Russian human rights group which is demanding the right of all Soviet citizens to emigrate.

Under strict new rules adopted last month, demonstrations have been banned from Red Square and other central areas of the city and permission has to be obtained to hold public gatherings elsewhere. The city authorities refused it for yesterday's emigration protest.

Less than two hours later, a number of the same KGB photographers were in action when a Moscow painter, Mr Aleksandr Zhadanov, and his grey-haired wife revealed cardboard banners, attached round their necks with thick string, listing alleged violations of the Constitution.

As the woman attempted to resist arrest by two KGB agents, again posing as ordinary members of the public, she was dragged away screaming and kicking.

Less than 10 minutes after the incident began, Mr Zhadanov was also arrested.

Upsurge of violence in north-eastern Sri Lanka

Peace-keepers fail to deliver

From Vijitha Yapa Colombo

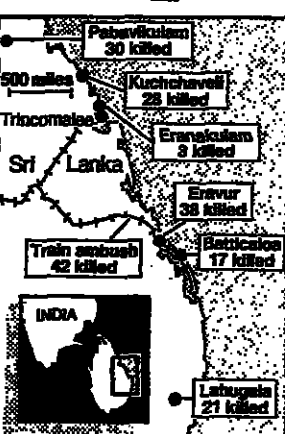
In a matter of only two months, the Indian peace-keeping force in Sri Lanka has turned out to be wanted neither by the majority Sinhalese in the south of the island nor the minority Tamils in the north.

Its first members arrived after the ink had hardly dried on the July 29 peace accord signed by President Jayawardene and Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India.

In the south, the Indians arrived against a background of widespread riots to protest at Colombo's ascent to the Indo-Sri Lankan deal. But in the north, the foreign troops were greeted like heroes. Today the mood is very different.

While feelings against the accord and the peace-keeping force continue to be stirred up in the south by the prescribed extremist party, the People's Liberation Front, Indian troops are finding that in Jaffna, the capital of Northern Province, shop people are even refusing to serve them.

There are now 10,000 Indian forces personnel in the Northern and Eastern provinces, and 1,200 military central reserve police, while



Sites of reported killings in Sri Lanka on Tuesday night and yesterday.

another 3,000 Indians are being shifted to Eastern Province this week.

The Sinhalese and the Muslims who constitute about two-thirds of the population in the city of Trincomalee in Eastern Province are very angry with the Indians for doing nothing to prevent their homes and shops being destroyed by members of the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The citizens say their complaints to the peace-keeping force fall on deaf ears. The Sri Lanka Army tells them it can

do nothing because, under the accord, it has been restricted to barracks.

The inaction of the Indian forces led to more than 10,000 people being made homeless while more than 600 shops and buildings have been destroyed and more than 20 people killed in Trincomalee, according to government officials.

One resident said that, though there was four years of ethnic conflict before the Indians arrived, no damage on the scale of the last week had occurred.

In the east, the Tamils are also blaming Indians for not stepping last month's conflict between rival Tamil groups for local supremacy, which led to more than 100 deaths.

Amid this tension, President Jayawardene called a meeting last Sunday of his senior security advisers, Mr Nirupen Sen, the Indian Deputy High Commissioner, and Lieutenant-General Depinder Singh, the chief of the Indian Southern Command.

The President told the Indians that if they were unable to restore order he would have to order Sri Lanka troops out of their barracks to maintain peace in Trincomalee.

Mr Gandhi has since assured President Jayawardene that there is no question of India deviating from any commitment or obligation under the Indo-Sri Lankan accord.

After a Sri Lankan Cabinet meeting yesterday, at which the President informed ministers of the crisis in the Northern and Eastern provinces, General Singh flew to Trincomalee yesterday to take charge of the situation. India has strongly condemned the massacres by the Tigers of innocent civilians and said that all the forces at her command will be used to preserve peace.

A communiqué issued by the Sri Lankan Government yesterday said that any person who violated the law, indulged in any kind of violence and obstructed the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord would be dealt with.

According to informed sources, President Jayawardene will not be attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Canada next week, where he was expected to meet and discuss the island's crisis with Mr Gandhi.

Gandhi's options, page 16

Tamils may start new hunger strike

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Home Office is to face increased pressure, after the renewed bloodshed in northern Sri Lanka, to take no further steps to send home Tamils who entered Britain illegally.

A spokesman for 34 Tamils held on the Earl William, a former Channel ferry used as a detention ship, said yesterday that they were considering resuming their hunger strike.

The 34, most of whom have been in detention for more than a year, were among 49 Tamils who ended a 10-day hunger strike on August 10. The other 15 have since been transferred to other centres or placed in the care of relatives.

The decision to end the hunger strike came after counsel representing the Home Office told a High Court judge that their cases would be reviewed. But Mr Sinnappu Maharasingam, chairman of the Tamil Action Committee, said yesterday that because of renewed doubts about the Home Office's intentions they were thinking of fasting to death, one at a time.

He said that events in Sri

Lanka demonstrated the risk that the Tamils would be tortured if sent home. "Any Tamil is now treated as a suspected terrorist," he said.

Mr Maharasingam and the Home Office agree that 150 Tamils are in various stages of judicial reviews, or subject to representations by MPs, or awaiting decisions on their cases by the Appeal Court.

They include 58 of the 64 Tamils who were involved in a strip protest at Heathrow Airport in February. The other six were allowed to enter. A much larger number, estimated by the Tamil Action Committee at 2,500, face the possibility that their temporary permission to stay will not be renewed. Most entered Britain between 1983 and 1985.

The Home Office puts the total number who have sought asylum over the last year at about 500, of whom fewer than 100 are held on the Earl William off Harwich, or at Harmondsworth, an Immigration Department centre near Heathrow, or at Leitchmere House, Richmond, Surrey.

Tanker hit as Tehran steps up its attacks on Saudi interests in Gulf

From Richard Beeston, Dubai

Iran appears to have stepped up its operations against Saudi interests in the Gulf, after a rocket attack on a Saudi tanker yesterday and at least one foiled sabotage attempt against Saudi oil installations.

Shipping sources said the latest tanker attack occurred just before dawn four miles off the coast of the Emirate of Ajman. The raid is the closest Iranian gun boats have ventured into United Arab Emirates territorial waters.

"I was woken up by seven or eight large explosions out at sea," said one shipping source, who identified the tanker as the *Raad al-Bakry*, which was sailing from the Saudi port of Ras Tanurah to Jeddah.

The tanker was apparently cornered by three Iranian boats which fired several rocket-propelled grenades and other weapons at the ship. Iranian gun boats frequently harass ships carrying crude oil from Saudi Arabia.

The tanker, not believed to be seriously damaged, continued its journey without incident through the Strait of Hormuz. The attack came only five days after Saudi forces were mobilized and jets scrambled to warn off a flotilla

of Iranian speed boats which were monitored approaching the Saudi off-shore oil terminal at Khafji.

Saudi Arabia denied the incident took place, and Iran said later its vessels were involved in naval exercises, although Gulf shipping sources and western officials are convinced it was a genuine

attack.

Doha, Qatar — Mr John Herrington, the US Energy Secretary, said yesterday that a boycott of Iranian oil could be effective despite past failures to impose international sanctions (Reuters reports). He said that he thought an embargo on Iranian oil could put pressure on Tehran if sufficient countries obeyed it.

raid, aimed either at probing Saudi defences or sabotaging the oil terminal.

US Navy war ships stationed in the northern Gulf have stepped up their surveillance of Iranian naval forces, and Tehran has reportedly massed scores of fast attack craft off its main oil terminal at Khafji Island.

Western diplomats contacted yesterday in Iran and Saudi Arabia said Tehran may

be planning to use frogmen trained in demolition techniques to sabotage Saudi Arabia's coastal oil installations.

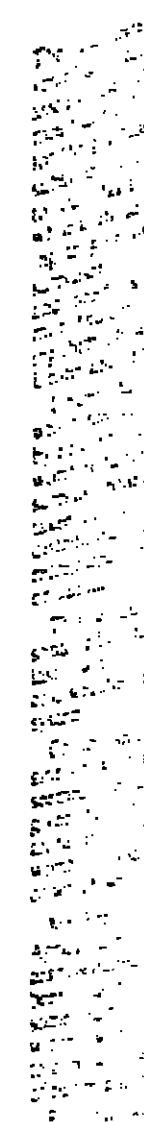
Yesterday's attack coincided with the resumption of Japanese shipping in the Gulf. Last week Japanese ships refused to operate in the Gulf after three of their ships were attacked by Iranian gun boats on one day.

● TOKYO: Japan has put together a package of mainly financial measures to meet its security obligations in the Gulf (David Watts reports).

It is to step up economic and technical co-operation with Gulf countries by earmarking about £125 million in untied aid from the Export-Import Bank of Japan for agricultural and infrastructure projects at more than usual concessionary rates. There will also be an Overseas Development Aid loan with Ex-Im Bank financing of £187 million for Jordan. Tokyo has also promised help for both Iran and Iraq in their reconstruction efforts once the war is over. It will also install and finance a radio navigation system to help ensure safety of shipping.



Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, second right, golfing with aspiring successors, from left, Mr Shintaro Abe, Mr Noboru Takeshita and Mr Kiichi Miyazawa.



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£70m giveaway as EEC reveals twin attack on surpluses

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The European Commission yesterday launched a twin assault on the EEC's food mountains. It revealed a plan for the gradual phasing out of subsidies to Europe's farmers to cut back future output, while at the same time proposing to give away the present surpluses to the elderly, poor and needy within the Common Market rather than selling them cheaply to the Soviet Union and the Third World.

Under the five food plan, which has yet to be approved by EEC ministers, £70 million worth of butter, beef and other surplus products would be taken out of cold storage and distributed through officially recognized charities, starting on January 1.

This would make the seasonal EEC handouts during last winter's exceptionally cold weather into a permanent system.

Critics said the Commission's new year-round scheme seemed modest, however, given that the winter giveaway alone involved £112 million worth of food, just under half of which went to Britain.

Mr Frans Andriessen, the Agriculture Commissioner, acknowledged that there had been chaotic distribution in some parts of Britain last winter, with charities unable to cope with wholesale blocks of butter and beef.

But this said more about

Britain than the EEC, he observed, and organization could be improved. The number of charities involved would be limited to pinpoint recipients. It was "not excluded" that local authorities could be brought in to ensure the food went to those genuinely in need and did not undercut commercial sales.

The cost of the exercise would be written into the 1988 budget, Mr Andriessen said. He admitted that the dramatic failure to agree a draft EEC budget for next year was something of an obstacle, but said he hoped this could be resolved.

Yesterday the Commission served notice that he would take legal action against the Council of Ministers through the European Court in two months' time - just after the Copenhagen EEC summit - unless a 1988 budget was agreed.

The budget is blocked by the southern states, which want extra regional funds, and by Britain, which refuses to countenance extra spending until farm costs - subsidies and storage - are controlled.

To meet such demands the Commission yesterday made farming subsidies the central plank of its proposals for world agricultural reform to be presented to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, in the current Uruguay round.

But the proposals, which like the free food scheme have to be approved by ministers, stopped short of a detailed programme for ending subsidies. They also argued the United States, which provides huge sums for farm support but has yet to come up with short-term proposals on ending it, by insisting that farming cut-backs in Europe should be accompanied by higher tariffs on products such as cereal substitutes for animal feed coming into the EEC.

Mr Andriessen said that the EEC's world trading partners must take into account the cut-backs the EEC had already made in dairy products and cereals, and Europe's farmers would have to be compensated by income aid, provided it was used for subsistence and not for production.

Mr Andriessen, hoping for better distribution to needy.

Andriessen pointed out yesterday, almost all world agriculture is subsidized, and America is one of the worst culprits. "There are no good guys and bad guys in agriculture, only bad guys," observed Mr de Clercq. "We are all sinners." Mr Andriessen said he doubted whether the EEC could ever manage without subsidies altogether.

The main points of the Commission's plans, which are likely to cause as much controversy within the Community as between the EEC and Washington, include a gradual phasing out of subsidies - though no timetable is laid down by the Commission; a temporary income aid for EEC farmers; the reduction of some external tariffs as world agriculture is reformed; and the raising of others to protect specific EEC sectors such as animal feeds. Also proposed is market sharing and international accords on production cuts.

The proposals are to be discussed by EEC foreign ministers in Luxembourg on October 19.

Anger in Brussels at US farm policy

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

If one theme dominated yesterday's presentation by the European Commission of its plans for world food trade reform, it was profound suspicion of the United States.

Both Mr Frans Andriessen, the Agriculture Commissioner, and Mr Willy de Clercq, the External Relations Commissioner, spent as much time attacking American motives as they did spelling out the Commission's proposals on world agriculture to be presented to the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The irritation in Brussels stems from President Reagan's announcement shortly after the economic summit in Venice that the US would end all farm subsidies by the end of the century. The impact of this breathtaking vow on the EEC was comparable to the impact on Nato of Mr Reagan's undertaking in Reykjavik a year ago to similarly eliminate all nuclear weapons.

Eliminating the subsidies which underpin farm output may prove as elusive a goal as nuclear disarmament. As Mr

Comecon nears treaty with 'capitalist cartel'

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

Formal recognition of the EEC by Comecon, the Soviet bloc trading organization, is likely by the end of the year, according to Mr Lev Tolukunov, leader of a 10-man Soviet delegation visiting Brussels. Such a treaty would pave the way for diplomatic recognition of the EEC by Moscow, which until recently has regarded the European Community as a capitalist cartel.

Since Mr Gorbachev's rise to power the Soviet Union has sought greater influence in Western Europe. Moscow has increasingly acknowledged that other powers such as the United States and Japan are right to deal with the EEC as a political and economic entity. Talks between the European

Commission - the EEC's executive branch - and Comecon began a year ago.

The Soviet delegation is visiting Brussels and Strasbourg at the invitation of the socialist group in the European Parliament. Mr Tolukunov, chairman of one of the two chambers in the Supreme Soviet, said EEC-Comecon negotiations were in such a positive phase that an agreement could be drawn up and ratified by the end of this year or early in 1988.

Senior EEC officials welcomed the Soviet overtures, but insisted that no treaty must interfere with, or circumscribe, the EEC's links with individual East European nations.

Raid sinks Seoul boat

Seoul - In a pre-dawn attack, North Korea sank a South Korean fishing boat yesterday, worsening already hostile relations on this divided peninsula and raising fears of further hostilities before next year's Olympics here (Our Correspondent writes).

Only one crew member of the boat, the 31 Chinyong Ho, has been rescued. South Korean forces are combing the chilly waters of the Yellow Sea for the remaining 12 crewmen, who are missing and feared dead after the incident.

Eight killed

Delhi (Reuters) - Suspected Sikh militants shot dead seven people and hacked a policeman to death in Punjab state, the Press Trust of India reported.

Emperor home

Tokyo - Emperor Hirohito, aged 86 and the world's longest-reigning monarch, has left hospital 15 days after an operation to relieve an intestinal obstruction.

PLO order

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - An Israeli court upheld the detention of Faisal Husseini, a leading Palestinian activist who was ordered detained on suspicion of being a senior member of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Homes lost

Dhaka (Reuters) - Floods that killed more than 1,000 Bangladeshis and made millions homeless buried at least 50,000 houses in silt as the waters receded, officials said.

Dictator plea

Moscow (Reuters) - The weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta* has called for an end to favourable reports about despotic African dictators and the substitution of ideals for truth in Soviet reports about Africa.

Killer line

Gassaa, Nigeria (AP) - Three members of the same family were electrocuted when the wire they were using to dry clothes suddenly became electrified.



East German soldiers marching past the country's leaders in East Berlin yesterday in a show of military might marking the 38th anniversary of the German Democratic Republic.

Crushing defeat for judge

Reagan urges Bork to continue Senate fight

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan yesterday met Judge Robert Bork at the White House a day after his crushing defeat in the Senate judiciary committee, and reportedly urged the Supreme Court nominee not to withdraw.

Mr Reagan told reporters at a picture-taking session afterwards that he had not changed his opinion on the judge's nomination, but refused to say whether Judge Bork himself wants to go through with the seemingly futile battle to get the full Senate to confirm him.

Judge Bork spent much on yesterday on Capitol Hill talking to many of the senators who will vote on his nomination, probably next week.

He also met Senator Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader, who has the thankless task of trying to overturn the 9-5 defeat in the Senate judiciary committee.

Senator Dole hinted beforehand that Judge Bork might want to withdraw now. Senator Dole did not hide his belief that the battle is lost.

And as another southern Democrat, Senator John Breaux of Louisiana, yesterday called on President Reagan to put forward another nominee, the pressure mounted on the White House to cut its losses.

Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont, one of the Democrats on the judiciary committee who opposed Judge Bork, said that Mr Reagan ought to withdraw his name

for the sake of the judge, his family and the country.

Mr Reagan, however, appeared angrily determined to fight until the end, and is refusing to contemplate any replacement. The Administration wants a roll-call vote in the Senate, hoping to identify its friends and inflict damage on southern conservative Democrats. Many of them want to support the judge and agree with his positions, but depend largely on black voters.

Washington - The US Government, finally ending a bitter internal argument, has issued its first official advice on what children should be taught about Aids. It concludes that abstinence is better than condoms (Christopher Thomas writes). In a 28-page handbook, schools are urged to emphasize moral lessons of restraint and to tell children condoms can fail to prevent transmission of the disease.

who are overwhelmingly opposed to Judge Bork.

Mr Reagan is still hoping to persuade southern Democrats to support the judge. But the White House admitted that the last-minute decision by Senator Howell Heflin of Alabama to vote against him was a big blow, and may influence other southern Democrats.

Senator Patrick Leahy, a former judge, said that a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court was "too important to risk to a person who has continued to exhibit, and

may still possess, a proclivity for extremism".

One Republican suggested that Senator Heflin might yet reconsider. But most were pessimistic, and angrily accused Judge Bork's opponents of "mob justice", of transforming constitutional debate into "the worst pressure group politics".

President Reagan, whose authority has been severely set back by the defeat, said they had "made this a political contest by using tactics and distortions that I think are deplorable".

Democrats disputed that they had used unfair tactics, and said they were not influenced by the big-spending lobby groups, but by the five-day testimony of Judge Bork himself. They said the White House itself was responsible for the politicization of the nomination.

Only three other Supreme Court nominees have ever been rejected by the Senate judiciary committee, the last being Judge Harold Carswell, nominated by President Nixon. They were all defeated in the full Senate.

If, as seems inevitable, Mr Reagan has to nominate someone else, he is being urged to pick a southerner with moderate conservative views.

One name being mentioned is Judge Patrick Higginbotham, an Appeal Court judge in Dallas.

Leading article, page 17

This man has checked-in at Heathrow, JFK, O'Hare and St. Louis. He's yet to leave home.



When you've got a business flight to catch, you're caught between two extremes.

Either you leave for the airport early enough to forestall the tedium at the check-in.

Or you delay setting off, to spend invaluable extra moments with your family or colleagues. Only to find yourself checking-in behind a crowd of other travellers.

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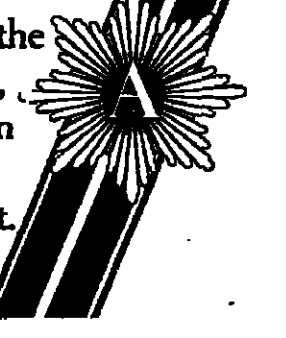
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Fijian coup leader names Cabinet and warns the press

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka yesterday underscored the start of the republican era in Fiji with a warning to trade unions and the press to fall into line.

Trade unions, he said, should behave "responsibly, like those in Singapore", while the press would have to get used to the military regime's controls.

As if to underline the point, Colonel Rabuka announced the appointment of a 19-member interim Cabinet which included at least seven hard-line nationalists of the Taukei movement.

Yesterday's events removed any doubts about the finality of the proclamation of a republic, while the ethnic balance of the Cabinet set new alarm bells ringing in the Indian community.

The Cabinet also contained three serving army officers, including Colonel Rabuka, who becomes Home Affairs Minister as well as self-styled head of state.

Before announcing his Cabinet, Colonel Rabuka met the ousted custodian of legitimate authority, Ratu Sir Penaia

Ganilau, the Governor-General. Nothing would be done to remove Ratu Ganilau from Government House — where the viceregal standard continued to fly yesterday — Colonel Rabuka said.

The picture he painted of life in the new republic was an authoritarian one. Trade unions would "have to show greater responsibility towards nation-building". A local journalist who complained about receiving death threats was told: "Why don't you become a soldier? Give up journalism."

Colonel Rabuka said the Governor-General's attempt to re-establish democracy had failed because of "inflexibility" by Dr Timoci Bavadra's ousted coalition Government.

"There should be no question in anybody's mind about our determination and resolve to continue in this new republic era," he said. Residual vestiges of the monarchical relationship, such as titles, privileges and charters, would also be done away with.

Asked whether he would return to the Queen his OBE,

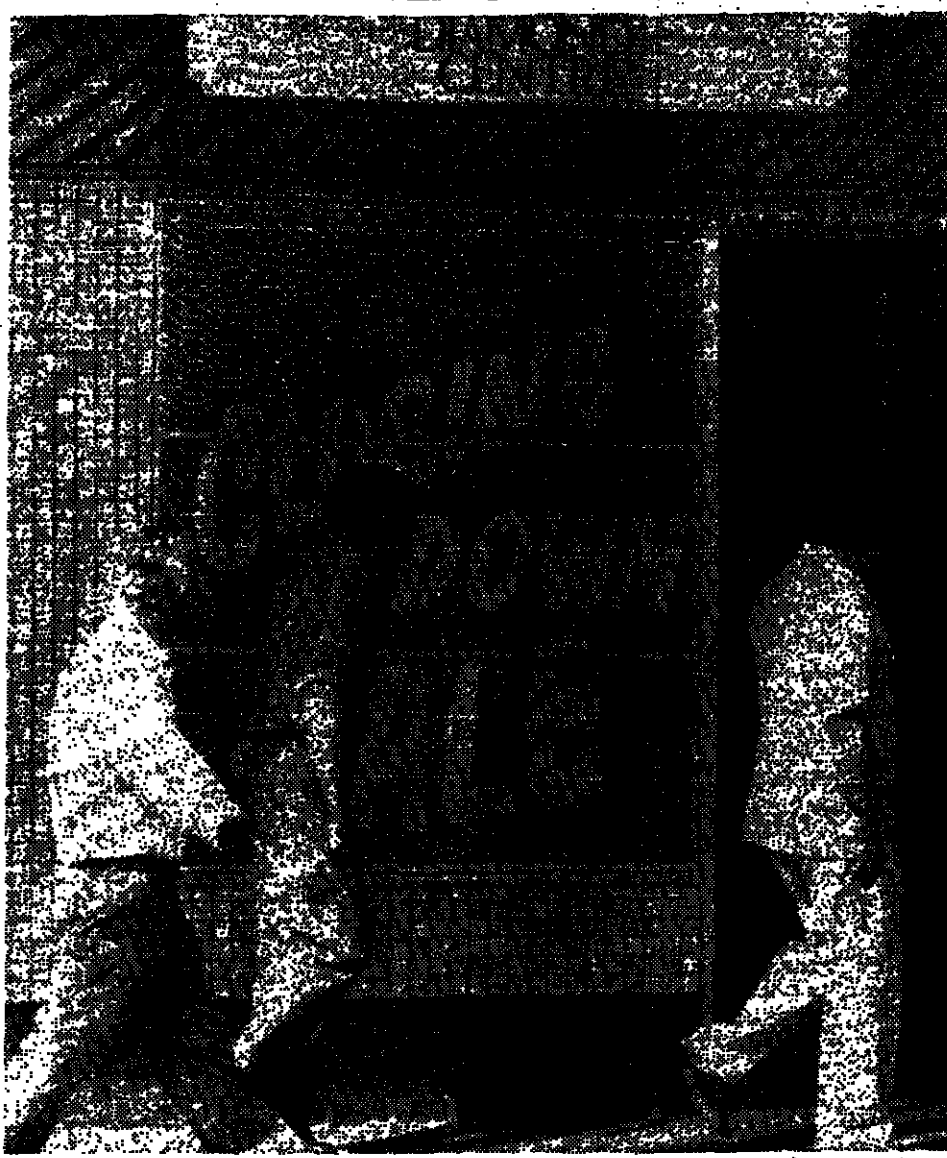
awarded for service with Fiji's battalion in Lebanon, he said: "If she demands it, yes I will."

The Foreign Affairs portfolio in the Cabinet went to Mr Filipe Bole, a former minister who was Fiji's representative at the United Nations.

The interim Cabinet also contains senior Taukei members, the mainspring of the coup, some with no government experience. They include Ratu Meli Vesikula, Mr Apisai Tora, Mr Tanielia Viata, and Ratu Inoke Kububola.

One of the new ministers holds views even more extreme than the Taukei. He is Mr Sakeasia Butadroke, Land Minister, who, as head of the Fijian Nationalist Party, proposed in the 1970s the repatriation of the Indian population.

The regime has introduced a Minister of Indian Affairs to the Cabinet, but the appointee, Mrs Irene Jai Narayan, was dismissed by leaders of the Indian community last night as having no credibility.



Fijians in Suva walking past an Indian-owned shop yesterday which is being closed down as ethnic Indians react to a politically uncertain future under the new regime.

T-shirts only signs of island turmoil

From Gavin Bell, Suva

It was evident there had been a military coup in Fiji — there were T-shirts in the shops that said so. But apart from a few fairly relaxed soldiers marching in a roadblock on the outskirts of Suva there were no visible signs yesterday of the political turmoil sweeping the islands.

On the surface, Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's midnight declaration of independence had all the dramatic impact of a revised British Rail timetable.

Joe, however, was puzzled. On Tuesday he was a *de jure* citizen of the Dominion of Fiji and yesterday he became a *de facto* citizen of the new Republic of Fiji. The distinction was unclear to Joe, an affable taxi driver, but he was vaguely uneasy. "What is a republic like?" he enquired of this correspondent. "Democracy is good, all people can say everything. Can you do this in a republic?"

Joe's concern about political systems he does not understand extended to more tangible economic considerations. "The main thing is where we get things. Australia was angry and stopped sending us flour and rice. This is very serious."

He was not alone in feeling a bit lost in Colonel Rabuka's brave new world. Discussions with indigenous Fijians indicated widespread ignorance about what was happening.

Bemused acceptance, rather than jubilation or anger, seemed to be the prevailing mood.

This was certainly no people's revolt against an unpopular regime, in the style of the Philippines or South Korea.

The light-blue national flag, featuring a Union Jack, was still flying above the Fiji Development Bank and government buildings in Suva, and the viceregal standard above the Governor-General's residence. A proposed republican flag, said to be a red lightning flash on a green background (the colours of the Fijian armed forces) has yet to make a public appearance.

Shops were open for business as usual in Victoria Parade, the capital's commercial centre, although tourists were few and far between. Fiji's changed status evidently

cluded a group of men drinking *lavo*, a soporific local brew, in the open-air market. Several were seen to raise their coconut-shell drinking vessels in toasts to the Queen.

Mr Meli Qioqata, a fruit seller, was restrained in his comments while surrounded by traders of Indian descent. When alone, however, he said: "I like this. The Indians were beginning to take control. It is better to break a tree when it is young."

His views were shared by Mrs Akumeti Korotiamana, the wife of a prominent civil servant. "The Indians are very pushy, they want to take over our country. We have to act now, or be pushed into the sea. If we don't, it will be too late for our children." She said that her family had been threatened twice with bomb attacks since Colonel Rabuka staged his first coup in May, and their home is now under armed guard.

The transition has generated more anxiety among Fijians of Indian descent, and thousands have already left to join relatives in Australia, New Zealand, Britain and Western Samoa. The exodus has not assumed the proportions of Amin's Uganda, but the steady flow shows no signs of abating.

According to Mr Suresh Persad, a second-generation Fijian whose grandfather emigrated from India in the 1920s, the mood in his community is a mixture of sadness and anger: "We don't believe the Fijians are demanding anything. We think it is just their leaders who are hungry for power."

Mr Persad's brother, an accountant, has already left for Samoa, and he is planning temporary residence in New Zealand, but others do not have the same opportunities.

Mr Sami Kalappa, a ship assistant, said: "Thousands are going but many of us cannot. My wife and I have spent all our money on a fish house, but now nobody wants to buy houses, so how can we go?"

Official assurances that the Indians should have nothing to worry about have failed to convince Mr Kalappa. "It seems that Colonel Rabuka still has a lot of explaining to do — on both sides of Fiji's racial divide."

Such action would confront the military authorities with the prospect of an imminent economic catastrophe.

According to Tate and Lyle, the British company which receives Fiji's entire European sugar quota, all contracted shipments have arrived on time so far, and the cane harvest appears to be going ahead as normal.

Nonetheless, Fiji's deals on sugar exports to Europe, which are guaranteed under the provisions of the Lomé Convention governing pre-

Suva — Fiji sharply devalued its currency yesterday in the wake of Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's declaration of a republic (Reuters reports). The Reserve Bank said it had devalued the Fijian dollar by 15.25 per cent to the equivalent of about 40 pence against five leading currencies, the second such move since the first coup in May. Sources said the action appeared to be aimed at protecting Fiji's dwindling foreign reserves.

As Fiji is guaranteed its European market at four times normal world prices, any failure to meet its quota should the islands' Indian community decide to leave or be forcibly expelled — would have devastating economic consequences.

New Zealand threat to withdraw diplomats

From Richard Long, Wellington

Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, said yesterday that New Zealand would not recognize the military republic in Fiji and might withdraw its diplomats from Suva.

In a statement seen here as an attempt to influence Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the Governor-General, against accepting the role of president, Mr Lange said New Zealand would also cancel its sugar purchasing agreement and cut aid if Ratu Ganilau was not able to re-establish his authority. These measures would cost Fiji about 10 million New Zealand dollars (£4 million) a year. Other sanctions were

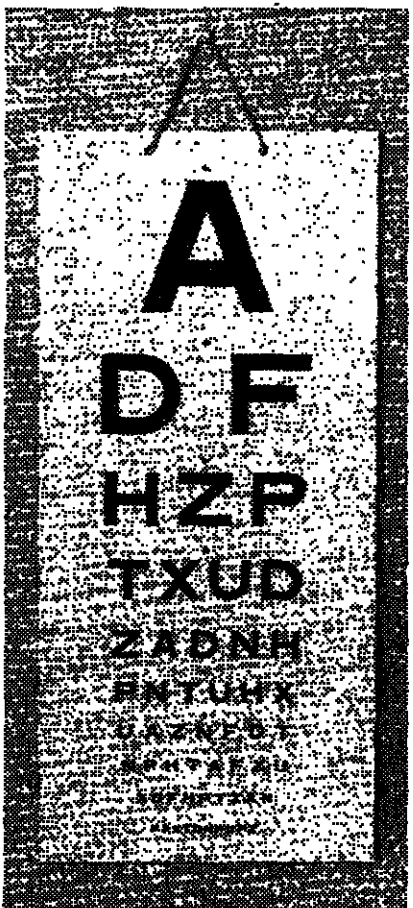
being considered. A trade ban would not be imposed. This would be a hollow gesture as the bottom had already dropped out of the Fiji economy.

Mr Lange said it would be tragic if Ratu Ganilau placed the cloak of legitimacy on what was clearly an illegitimate form of government by adopting the role of president.

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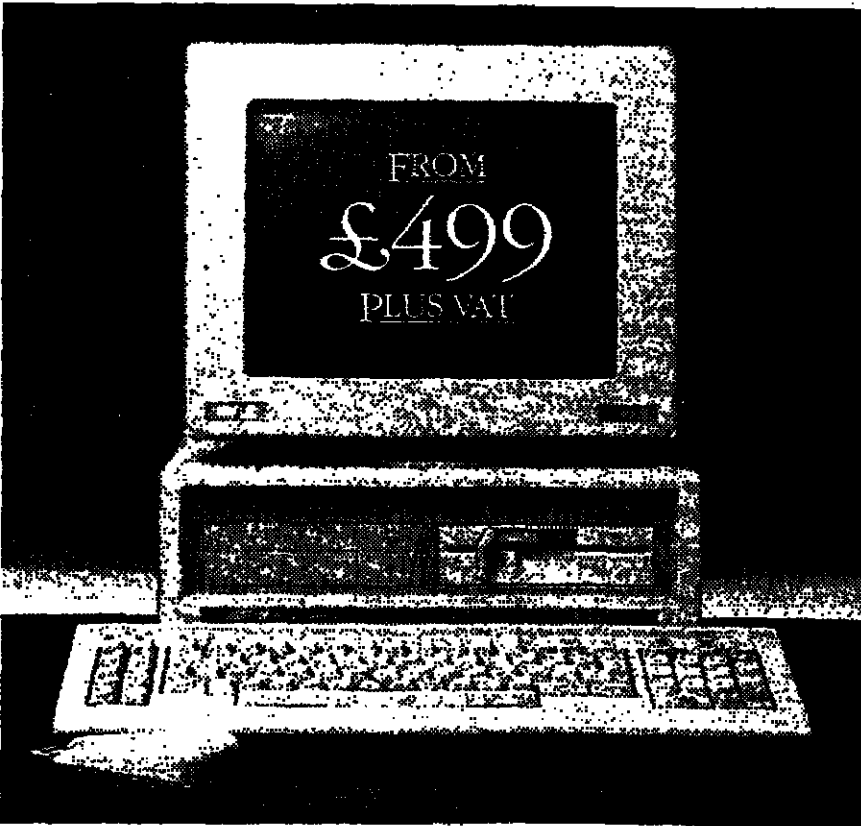
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**Zealand threat
raw diplomat**

Next, the flu forecast

Can virologists really predict how many will fall prey to influenza — and how effective can a flu vaccine hope to be? Liz Gill reports.

The trouble with the flu virus is that it doesn't fight fair. It meanders from one year to the next, changing a bit here and there but remaining essentially recognizable. Then, between one winter and the next, it suddenly undergoes a dramatic transformation. It is the microbiological equivalent of Clark Kent and Superman.

Today a worldwide network of laboratories monitors its every move. Virologists call the smaller modifications "drift". They happen continually and — although they can cause sizeable epidemics — they can be tackled by vaccination. "Shift", however — the term for the major changes — is rare but devastating. Since the virus has changed beyond recognition, vaccines become useless. It was shift that led to the three great pandemics of this century: Hong Kong flu of 1968, Asian flu of 1957 and most catastrophic of all, Spanish flu of 1918, which claimed more victims than the First World War.

Last week there was some suggestion that another epidemic was expected this winter — based primarily on the fact that there hasn't been one for 10 years — and sizeable casualties were predicted.

Fortunately, however, the outlook is brighter than that. Scientists currently observing the virus at the World Influenza Centre at the National Institute for Medical Research say there has been no markedly detectable change in its nature over the past few months.

Dr John Skehel, director of the Centre, says: "The best guide is what has happened in the southern hemisphere, as they've just had their winter. There have been some local outbreaks, but fewer than in recent years, so I would not be inclined to say there was going to be a pandemic."

Influenza forecasting is a bit like weather forecasting: you can have expert monitoring and high tech equipment and still get it wrong. Influenza is almost unique in the way in which it spreads around the world.



conduct a mass vaccination programme, since these are generally aimed at the elimination or long-term control of the disease and this is not possible with flu which changes every year. Obviously if employers want to offer it to their workforce that's their choice, as it is an employee's choice whether to accept."

Often it is hard to distinguish between flu and colds but generally speaking — since a cold is a viral attack on the nose — the symptoms tend to be mainly nasal or linked with the nose. Flu, however, is frequently accompanied by fever, aching joints, weakness and depression. The illness and its aftermath may last much longer. At the Common Cold Research Unit in Salisbury volunteers are given both colds and mild doses of the flu virus.

Researcher Dr Peter Higgins says it has been established that flu impairs concentration while colds impair motor functioning.

"With both colds and flu people's responses vary enormously. You build up your resistance throughout your life. It's one of the few

Your GP should check to ensure you have the vaccine for this winter

compensations for getting older." There is some evidence that extroverts suffer less severe colds than introverts and that life disturbances, good or bad, affect one's susceptibility by influencing the body's immune system.

A well-balanced diet is thought to afford some protection and doses of vitamin C or zinc might slightly shorten a cold. Interferon has been shown to prevent a cold but its widespread use is neither feasible nor desirable. "We need contact with these viruses because that's how we build up immunity," says Higgins. "What we are looking for is something that will condense and minimize the illness, be it a cold or flu." He believes such an agent is a possibility in the not-too-distant future.

In the meantime, sufferers must treat the symptoms. "For instance use a decongestant spray for a runny or stuffy nose. Don't take preparations that contain aspirin if you don't have a headache. It's not a good idea to take a whole load of things you don't actually need."

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Safer for children

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The claim being made in the High Court by a 17-year-old girl that whooping cough vaccine left her brain-damaged will no doubt increase interest in an already controversial subject.

Most, but not all, doctors, feel that the very occasional serious reaction is a price which has to be accepted if large numbers of children are to be spared the horrors of a bad attack, with the attendant risk of later lung, and even brain, damage, but there are

enough members of the medical profession to provide expert support for those opposed to the injections.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines was therefore criticized when its caution seemed to be delaying the introduction of a new genetically engineered vaccine which would cut the already small risk and

enable immunization to be achieved with two rather than three injections. The committee has now sanctioned a trial designed to test three versions of the new vaccine on 300 children.

The vaccine will be given at the same time as the inoculation against diphtheria and tetanus. As well as protection being achieved after the second injection, it is hoped that it will have the advantage of cutting the number of minor, as well as major, reactions.

Cut conclusion



To cut or not to cut the perineum has been a preoccupation, not only of widows and obstetricians, but also of the feminist movement, who have seen the episiotomy as epitomizing male doctors' inhumanity to women. Apart from the advantages for the baby, advocates of the episiotomy have claimed that it reduces the numbers of patients who develop incontinence after delivery and is done for the woman's future welfare.

Although all doctors would agree that if the perineum is holding up the delivery and the baby's condition is deteriorating, an episiotomy is indicated, medical critics of the operation have claimed that as a result of the cut and its subsequent stitching more women later suffer pain during intercourse.

A large survey carried out by Dr Adrian Grant and a midwife, Jennifer Sleep, from the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading, has recently been published in the *British Medical Journal*. They have followed up a thousand patients who, in a controlled trial, were divided into two groups.

One had an episiotomy at the first indication that one might be helpful; in the other group the midwife tried to avoid doing one if at all possible. Interestingly, the trial showed that the liberal use of an episiotomy did not seem to prevent urinary incontinence, but nor did it increase the number of women who later suffered from painful intercourse.

Breath of reason



Fashions in medicine may not change as rapidly as the length of the hemline, but there is a cycle in treatment. Once an operation becomes too readily recommended, doctors start to notice its disadvantages.

At one time tonsils and adenoids were routinely removed from almost every child, but for the past 25 years the operation has become unfashionable and is only carried out for the treatment of recurrent attacks of severe tonsillitis.

For fear of being thought old-fashioned, many doctors would not suggest a tonsillectomy, leaving children breathing noisily at night, exhausted by day and failing to thrive.

Dr S. Hodges and Dr M. Wailoo, from the Leicester Royal Infirmary, have recently described two cases in the *British Medical Journal* which demonstrate that once chronically infected tonsils and adenoids are removed and the child can breathe without obstruction, there is a dramatic increase in weight and general well being.

Cape of hope



Six months ago a 35-year-old woman with breast cancer developed a secondary growth in her spine which left her paralysed. The pain was very successfully eased by fitting a morphia syringe pump, an ingenious gadget strapped to the patient

in which the plunger of the syringe is slowly driven in by an attached electric motor so that it delivers a constant supply of morphia.

Before she died her family were helped in her care — and later in their grief — by the relatives of another patient who was dying from cancer of the bowel in the next bed. Later both families became good friends. A commonplace story were it not that one family was black and the other determinedly Afrikaner.

They were together in a recently-founded non-racial hospice, St Luke's, the first of its kind in Cape Town. Patients, doctors and nurses are drawn from all the racial groups of the area.

Afrikaner families help to look after black patients, Malay Muslims welcome the support of Jews. The nursing team is composed of Indians, South African whites and has recently been joined by a Xhosa Sister. All travel freely throughout the townships, have never been assaulted and are now caring for 50-60 patients in their own homes besides 22 in-patients.

The hospice has a direct link with St Thomas's Hospital in London and with Dame Cicely Saunders, the founder of the hospice movement in this country. At the same time as Saunders was changing from nursing to medicine at the hospital, one of the physiotherapists, Christine Dore, decided to join the Church.

After taking a diploma in theology she went to South Africa to do youth work, but later became interested in the care of the dying, qualified as a doctor and founded St Luke's.

Dr Thomas Stuttard

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SINGAPORE AIRLINES

THE TIMES DIARY

The war goes on

The shenanigans at War on Want over the outgoing general secretary, George Galloway, have delayed the appointment of his replacement. Since the charity's annual meeting 10 days ago, during which the Labour MP for Glasgow Hillhead was hissed, the influence of the Galloway camp has diminished. Until then it was assumed that Bill Gilbey, Galloway's former colleague on the Scottish Labour Party national executive, would succeed. Now, however, the job is to be re-advertised. Those originally short-listed — including John Tilley, the former Labour MP and Hackney council's chief economic adviser; Jim Murphy, an EEC mandarin; and James Firebrace, the charity's programme director — are being encouraged to hang on for reconsideration. This may be some relief for Alf Dubs, the former Battersea Labour MP who lost his seat in June. He was passed over last week for the director's post at the Child Poverty Action Group — Fran Bennett was appointed. Some observers say a woman should also take over War on Want.

Tebbit ta-ta?

Senior Tories who had been expecting Norman Tebbit to wait until December to announce his resignation as party chairman now believe it may come tomorrow. The thinking is that though he is loath to upstage the Prime Minister on the day of his big speech, the speculation surrounding his future — fuelled by the announcement that he is to join the Sears board — is making his position untenable. Conveniently, he is listed to speak on a debate on party organization. Motion 717, asserting that it is not "in the national interest for the party to rest on its laurels", is bland even by Tory conference standards. Tebbit may be grateful to have something concrete to say in reply.

When Michael Heseltine addresses a Tory Reform Group dinner tomorrow on *Unemployment — the need for debate* there is unlikely to be anyone patting the case from the ranks of the unemployed. Tickets cost £17.50.

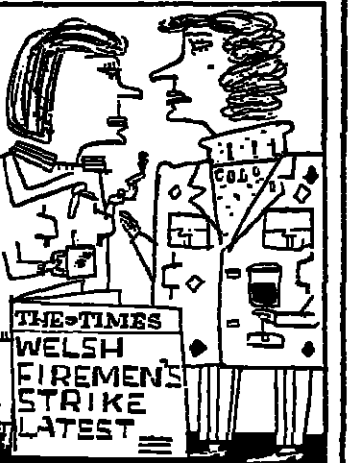
Star billing

John Major's leap from obscurity to celebrity status, following Norman Tebbit's warm praise for him over the weekend, is turning into a personality cult. Major's latest fan is the 12-year-old daughter of Robert Atkins, a junior trade minister and member for South Ribblesdale. Staying with Atkins on his way to Blackpool, Major was astounded to find Victoria had decorated his bedroom door with silver stars and the legend "Star Chamber". This, she patiently explained, was an allusion both to Major's quality and his role in the Treasury's Star Chamber inquisitions into ministerial spending. There has been nothing to equal this level of excitement over the quietly-spoken Huntingdon MP since the time a journalist accused him of being boring. Major countered by revealing that his grandfather was the last tight-rope-walker in Britain not to use a safety net.

On the board

For those who now know all the Trivial Pursuit answers a new game will be on the market for Christmas. Called Stockmarket, it involves the purchase and sale of shares. Part of the game is that the board is coated in plastic to protect it from spit drinks. No doubt they realize that many of their potential customers will need the added excitement of champagne to spend their leisure hours doing what they do all day at work.

BARRY FANTONI



No threat to us, our cottage was burnt down years ago

Gaol keeping

Riots have led to the escape of 130 convicts from Rye House Prison on the Solomons Islands, near Fiji, famous as the site of the decisive battle between the Americans and the Japanese at Guadalcanal. As escapees looted shops in the capital, Honiara, the problem arose of how to summon enough manpower for the round-up. Prison governors arrived at a solution — the men still behind bars were released with strict instructions to return later. This freed the wardens to search for the escapees. History will reveal who returns on time, who is recaptured, and who remains to keep them behind bars. Eventually.

PHS

Radical is as radical does

by David Hart

There has been little sign at Blackpool this week that Conservatives understand the unique opportunity their third election victory offers for a transformation of Britain.

Mr Thatcher seeks a nation of hard-working, self-reliant, self-respecting individuals rejoicing in a legitimate national pride. A wholesome and, clearly, an electorally appealing vision. But its moral validity will increasingly be brought into question if the government continues to exclude from the scope of this vision the large number of individuals who are forced to depend on the state for their material necessities, many from the cradle to the grave.

Conservatives claim that the reforms they are offering are radical. They are not, because they do not address the fundamental problem: the role, scope and size of the state. Until this is drastically reduced state dependents will not acquire the habits and practice of responsibility and so become self-reliant and self-respecting.

The government understands that parents want and should have much more say in the education of their children. But opting out is going to be much more difficult than the government realizes. The small print, which will be drafted by the less-than-enthusiastic Department of Education, will ensure that great energy and commitment are required by parents before they can escape the baleful effects of local education authorities. There are no pro-

posals for opting in: allowing approved independent schools to obtain resources from the government. There are insufficient proposals for providing information to parents. The proposals for City Technical Colleges do not go far enough.

Kenneth Baker should grasp the nettle and introduce a voucher system and privatize all state schools. Removing the provision of education from the state sector would substantially reduce state activity at a stroke. There is no other way to give parents real choice and oblige them to make decisions about their children's education and so act responsibly.

The government understands that the Rent Acts have led to a drastic reduction in the supply of private rented accommodation. But it has balked at repealing them, despite the Prime Minister's known personal preference for this reform. The proposed new forms of tenure will not improve the supply of private rented accommodation any more than the short-let has.

The government understands that the ownership of housing by local authorities has as much as anything been responsible for the desperate condition of some of our inner cities. The proposal to give municipal tenants the right to choose a different landlord, by giving excessive power to tenants over their landlords, strikes at the

heart of property rights, the foundation of a property-owning democracy.

Tenants will have to make a great effort and be very determined to exercise this right against recalcitrant councils. In any case, it is unlikely that many of them will want to, because too many tenants have been made to fear private landlords even more than they dislike municipal ones. The Rent Acts have so distorted the residential property market that institutions and responsible private landlords are rarely prepared to buy or build residential property to let. Those who are, invest in a difficult market and expect large rewards for taking large risks. Some of them are prepared to go beyond the law to get vacant possession.

The government understands that the rating system creates representation without taxation. In Liverpool, for example, four-fifths of local voters do not pay rates. No wonder they elect councillors who promise to spend large amounts of other people's money.

The community charge is intended to make local electors more responsible for paying for local services. It is an excellent principle. But the government proposes to introduce it in a manner that is so timid, and it intends to exempt so many people or else to subsidize them, that it is likely to create the greatest oppo-

sition while achieving the slightest reforms. It is just as well that conference bailed Nicholas Ridley into agreeing to reconsider the timing of its introduction. It may have saved his bacon.

In one other vital area, of national policy the government is not being radical and is, indeed, heading for grave problems. There is no doubt, whatever its other merits, that the proposed INF missiles treaty will increase European exposure to the massive Soviet conventional, chemical and biological superiority. President Reagan seems intent on trying to rush into other even more significant nuclear weapons agreements, principally for domestic political reasons. At present, the government is cutting defence spending by 5 per cent in real terms. In the atmosphere of new détente that is breaking out it will find it hard to explain to the electorate that it needs to increase defence spending again. Yet it will have to, if it is not to expose Europe and this country to the risk of Soviet blackmail.

The government and the Conservative Party have a unique opportunity to transform Britain into a nation that respects itself, is respected by others, is a pre-eminent power for good in the world. They should dedicate themselves to a fuller realization of that excellent set of political values that has rightly become known as Thatcherism.

The author is chairman of the Committee for a Free Britain.

Michael Hamlyn on Rajiv Gandhi's options in dealing with the guerrillas

Will he tame the Tigers?

Islamabad A cartoon published in a Pakistani paper yesterday shows an Indian elephant, the Hindu mark of Shiva's trident on its forehead, recoiling in horror as a number of large and ferocious ants march up its trunk, which is plunged into a map of Sri Lanka.

The latest violence on the island is the most serious test yet of the resolve of Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, to resolve the ethnic crisis there. Will he be prepared to move the 13,000 troops of the Indian peacekeeping force against the Tamil guerrillas? The new outbursts have shown that the guerrillas, headed by the largest of the groups, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, have not given up their dream of an independent Tamil state in the north and east of the island. The killings are designed to prove that the Tamils and the majority Sinhalese cannot live together any more.

The great danger is that the Sinhalese will prove the Tigers right by turning on the Tamils living in the south and west of the island, as they did in the week-long massacre of July 1983, when upwards of 3,000 people died at their hands. There is also the possibility that if the Indian peacekeeping force is unable or unwilling to control the Tigers, the Sri Lankan armed forces, at present confined to barracks, will break out to protect the Sinhalese villagers in their own way. That would mean the end of the Indian-Sri Lankan peace accord, and spell a defeat for all concerned.

During the rule of Indira Gandhi, the Tamil rebels enjoyed considerable indulgence at the hands of the Indian authorities. It was abundantly clear that the supplies of men and materials were being shipped to Sri Lanka from the south Indian coast. The camps of refugees fleeing the hideous intolerance and indiscriminate line of the Sri Lankan army became fertile recruiting grounds for the rebel fighters.

When Rajiv Gandhi succeeded his mother, the Indian attitude began to change. The new Prime Minister, with his business-like simplicity, wanted an end to the killings not only in his own states, Punjab and Assam and Mizoram, but also in Sri Lanka.

He at first felt deceived by President Jayawardene, who seemed to wriggle away from each commitment to solve the dispute that he entered into. But actually the Sri Lankan president and his government constantly shifted their position towards the Tamil



A Tiger guerrilla before the cease-fire: now he is rearmed

demands (and in doing so caused a good deal of unease among the Sinhalese population).

The turning point came a year ago during a South Asian summit meeting in the Indian garden city of Bangalore. Gandhi and Jayawardene agreed on a detailed plan for devolution of power to provincial councils, which would go a long way towards meeting Tamil aspirations for control of their own affairs. The leader of the Tamil Tigers, Velupillai Prabhakaran, was called in to endorse the plan. He refused.

Gandhi and Jayawardene finally produced a package that provided the linkage between the northern and eastern provinces that had been demanded by Tamil politicians as their minimum requirement, and which had been refused by the government as beyond Sinhalese acceptability.

Prabhakaran and his lieutenants were simply summoned to be told that this was the deal, and that they must agree to give up their weapons and end the fight.

The Tigers still did not trust the Sri Lankan government, but their leader told his men that they were not to confront the Indian forces, and thus upset the Indian public. At the same time the Indians have been similarly reluctant to confront the Tigers. The rebels were far from whole-hearted about the settlement. "They have given up their big weapons, their mortars and rockets," a Sri Lankan brigadier told me. "But they have kept their personal arms."

The main fear of the Tigers was soon realized. While the population of the Jaffna peninsula was secure enough — for the past four years the Sinhalese population has been driven out — in the eastern

province the ethnic divide was much more even.

Sinhalese villagers had been encouraged to establish a local irregular force of armed "home guards" to protect themselves against the possibility of terrorist attacks, and these militiamen were not disarmed under the peace accord. They represented a threat to the Tamils, and were able to deny passage along some roads to fearful Tamil civilians.

Further, the Sri Lankan authorities began returning Sinhalese settlers to development areas that they had been forced to abandon at the height of the troubles. The Tigers also claimed that new Sinhalese settlements were being established, indeed that Sinhalese were being put into areas from which Tamils had been forced to flee by the attentions of the military.

This touched on a particularly sore point. The aim of Sinhalese policy for the past 40 years has been to dilute the Tamil dominance of the eastern province, and Sinhalese have been given government assistance to settle on land that has been opened up by new irrigation works.

The more quickly the Sinhalese could be re-established there, the sooner the voters' register would show a majority for the separation of the two provinces in a referendum that is promised under the Indian peace accord. If, on the other hand, the Sinhalese are terrified into leaving the area the physical separation of the Tamil and the Sinhalese administrations will become closer to reality.

The peacekeeping force will undoubtedly have to move into action against the Tigers. The guns will have to be taken from both the Tigers and the home guards. At the same time the sea lanes around the Sri Lankan coast will have to be heavily patrolled by both the Indian and Sri Lankan navies to prevent further arms supply to the rebels.

The Indian government has already reiterated its full support for the peace accord, and night oil has been burning in South Block, the headquarters of the Indian administration in Delhi, as Gandhi and his aides decide on their next moves.

The Indians still need the co-operation of the Tigers in setting up an interim administration to run the northern and eastern areas. Such co-operation will be difficult to compel. It may now have to wait until the Indians see whether they can succeed where the Sri Lankan army failed, and tame the Tigers.

Moore's evolutionary fervour for the NHS

Jill Sherman on the likely course, and the limits, of reforms in the health service

Whatever he does with the welfare state John Moore is not about to dismantle the National Health Service. His staff can put aside their fears that the Social Services Secretary will today in Blackpool denounce the state financed system and opt for one funded by private health insurance or even social insurance.

Despite his renowned support for privatization, and a ruthless determination to improve efficiency, Moore is for the moment committed to the idea of a health service funded mainly by taxation and free at the point of need.

He is also convinced of the need for more resources. A recent evening visit to a casualty department in south London made him aware of the immediate necessity of additional funds. He just does not think that all the money has to come from the same cake, and he is keen to generate more income by fostering both competition and greater collaboration with the private sector.

The next few months will see a drive to extend competitive tendering from cleaning, catering and laundry services into clinical support services such as radiology, pathology and pharmacy. Where the NHS proves more competitive it should provide services for the

private sector, he argues.

This belief is likely to provide the cornerstone of any immediate policy changes in the Department of Health and Social Security. Moore and many of his departmental and political advisers feel hospitals should be able to buy and sell services and that they should be able to make a profit.

Under existing legislation hospitals are allowed to sell services if they have spare capacity but they are not allowed to make a profit, nor are they able to set up a service deliberately to court private patients. It is understood that Moore is considering legislative changes so that health authorities can make profits out of both private and amenity beds and from carrying out tests and operations for the private sector, the extra money to be used to improve other services.

His officials are also toying with the more controversial idea of allowing health authorities to set up services for the sole purpose of raising income. Such a scheme is to be piloted this month at the London teaching hospital, St Bartholomew's, in the form of a

private breast-cancer screening service at cut-price rates.

If men and women are prepared to pay up to £250 for health screening in the private sector, the argument goes, why should they not be prepared to pay a more competitive rate at an NHS hospital? Hospitals could set up "well men" and "well women" clinics to tap the enormous growth in individuals' interest in their health. Private companies predict a steady increase in "35-year-old squash players" wanting annual full check-ups; BUPA clinics are seeing three times as many for checks as they were two years ago.

Such health screening, at present carried out in the NHS only if the doctor feels there is medical need, could be operated at out-patient clinics or in general practitioners' surgeries. The latter, more convenient, would require changes in GPs' contracts to allow them to make charges.

Any move to introduce charges into the NHS is fraught with danger. Opposition MPs and pressure groups will see it as a prelude to widespread charges in hospitals

and surgeries. Moore is not yet ready to go that far. He does not think public opinion has changed sufficiently to allow charges for visits to GPs or hospital admissions (despite a recent poll from the public expenditure policy unit suggesting it had).

From his unpublished visits to hospitals throughout the country he also thinks most people in hospital are there because they are ill and fears charges would stop many seeking essential help.

Some of his colleagues argue that the public should be made more aware of what the health service costs by sending them part of the bill. However, officials have calculated that if small charges of under £5 were levied at, say, surgeries, out-patient departments and for admissions, the amount raised would be £150 million a year, only about 1.5 per cent of the health service budget. The gain, it is said, would be outweighed by the political disadvantages.

In his speech today Moore is not expected to make major announcements. He will, no doubt, outline a new philosophical framework for the health service, pushing the idea of competition and market forces. However, his speech is interpreted, he will deny he is holding a major review of funding.

Ronald Butt

Triumphs then and now

Mr Norman Tebbit was wise to draw the attention of the Conservative conference to the similarity between the political landscape today and that of 1959, when the Labour Party suffered as crushing a defeat as that inflicted on it this year, only to go on to two election victories in 1964 and 1970.

The then Tory government, he reminded them, had lost its way in mid-term, and Labour had won by persuading the voters that it had become a modern and moderate party. That is true, but there is something more to be said, which is a warning to the Tories today.

There is an important difference between then and now. Between 1959 and 1964 Labour thinking was reshaped by men who believed passionately in their cause, which is not the case with Labour leaders today. When Gaiskill and Croxland tried to turn their party away from fundamentalist socialism towards a new egalitarianism by means of social engineering, they were acting from conviction, not expediency.

Labour leaders in 1964 genuinely thought that if they could break down class barriers by changing the education system, redistributing wealth through taxation and social services and planning for growth, they would create a new, prosperous and vigorous society in which the old socialism would have no place. Nationalization or controls of the primitive socialist sort would be unnecessary, and above all it would be possible to escape from the class politics of socialism.

But the theory of social democracy with which they were enthusiastically gripped also became the dominant creed of the time. A great deal of this thinking was absorbed by the Tories themselves. Among the symptoms of this were the Tory interest in planning, the switch towards egalitarian education and the Tory-communism Robbins plan for the expansion of universities, which was supposed to breed a new classless educated society.

But Mr Kinnock and his colleagues do not at heart believe in the market-oriented, affluent and entrepreneurial socialism to which they are now paying respect, despite the rage of their party. They are responding to defeat, not to an idea. They will therefore not carry the conviction that the social democrats did in 1964. They are out of tune with the climate of the time, and internecine war among them will probably make Labour again unelectable.

Even so, it is possible that the Labour leaders might again present a sufficiently plausible front to be able to edge into office, if the Conservatives misjudge the mood of the nation. It is here, too, that there is a lesson to be learnt from the Labour victories in 1945 and 1964-66. In each case Labour won in a mood of public altruism and by converting a large number of middle-class people to their notion of a better society.

Today the Tories hold power

because it is they who reflect the ideas of our time, as Labour does not. There is public support for the shift from bogus egalitarianism to objective standards in education; the freedom of the individual from trade union domination; the market economy; private ownership; removing the hand of the state from the citizen; and above all for the defeat of inflation, which erodes society. They are also in power because more people become a modern and moderate party.

Yet nothing could be more unwise than for the Tories to think themselves invulnerable because they represent the increasing number of "haves". For one thing, there is no sharp division between "haves" and "have-nots". The two categories overlap, and it is essential that the "have-lesses" should not come to think that they have a raw deal from Thatcherite society. This is especially true in respect of the social services, and not least in regard to those parts of them on which the great majority have no option than to depend.

The government is planning a fundamental review of the health service. That is wise because it is underfunded and its standards are inadequate. Costs will rise steadily and somehow more money has to be directed to it. Our system is irrational in that it assumes that Mr Kinnock's doctor with a microwave and a little place in Marlborough can take it for granted that these are the priorities in his spending, because the "state" takes care of education, health and other essentials, without his being taxed more heavily.

Spending priorities should be more sensible and systems improved. But any reforms in the present elephantine social system must not cause hardship, or a fall in standards at any level. The government must not be so obsessed with the "market" doctrine as to forget that in Germany, which it takes as a model for the "social market" philosophy, the "social" is just as axiomatic as the "market" in the functioning of the system. That is the basis of that country's industrial performance. The state may not manage the services but it ensures that everyone is covered, and not at a third-rate level.

It would also do the Tories good if, as well as being concerned about the abuse of social benefits, it also acted against abuses in the taxation system, including perks. It is interesting that some young CBI managers are now campaigning against company cars. The same might be said of pension benefits to high salary earners compared with returns on the state system. Tories in their triumph should remember the message, discussed here last week, for Labour's original rise to influence despite its improbable doctrine. The better society they are building must not be equipped with in-built grievances which again turn voters' minds towards quack remedies, which is what happened in 1964.

however . . . Joseph Connolly

Let them eat words

The shopping face of Hampstead is changing. Because my bookshop used to be situated between a butcher and a baker, I suffered agonies of guilt for failing to be one of life's candlestick-makers — but no longer: the baker is now a Filofax shop, and so it doesn't seem to matter.

Just down the road, a perfectly serviceable newsagent recently changed hands for a reputed £640,000, and now its charcoal and brutalist interior displays a spottily shoe and a tree-trunk (I couldn't tell you which — if either — is for sale).

One is used, too, to the shelves of circulars from estate agents pleading for shop premises "just such as yours" and promising anxious hordes of "overseas buyers" rabid to pay twice the market rate, cash, that afternoon. What was novel, however, was the caterer who called unofficially the other day to discuss with me the possibility of transforming my shop into London's first "Literary Esterie". I pressed for details.

"We are talking here about themes," the fellow enthused. His hair was thin and his lower lip was wet. "You know what I mean?" "Of course," I enjoined. "What do you mean, exactly?"

"One week could be, say, Samuel Johnson Week — jug of claret, ye olde Cheshire cheese, saddle of lamb, bucket of beer."

"Buttock," I corrected. "Well — maybe that isn't such a hot idea," he conceded, "but the Elizabethan banquet — there's a winner. Shakespeare, you know."

"Yes, I've heard of him."

"Well you would," he allowed, "being in the trade."

"Haven't you rather overlooked the fact that the shop is, not to put too fine a point on it, tiny? You tend to bang your elbow while eating a sandwich — I can't quite see an Elizabethan banquet."

"But this is just my point, John — they had snacks in those days, same as what we do."

"Snacks? What sort of snacks?"

"All sorts," the man replied. "Pigeon." He buffed a contemptuous fingernail. "Bat."

"Bat?"

The man nodded. "Can be a tasty thing, your bat: it's all in the preparation. I then there's stoat."

"Stoat? Oh come on now — you

can't be serious. Stoat?"

"A delicacy, stoat was; not much call for them, these days, but we could change all that."

"I see," I lied. "So what sort of thing do you envisage? Kentucky Fried Stoat? Steak in a basket?"

I paused. "Chilli con Stoat?"

"This wouldn't be sarcasm, would it, John?"

"No no," I assured him. "I am fascinated."

"What we do is introduce to your punter the stoat or similar grubbies, like a few shreds in his asubergine, for kicks off. Very nice washed down with peppermint water."

"What is peppermint water?" I asked, beginning to lose my grip on the entire affair.

"Georgian recipe, as it happens — spearmint leaves, sugar and vodka. You can leave out the mint, to taste; and the sugar, come to that. The idea is to produce traditional fare that is unobtainable elsewhere. Ugli fruit."

"Not very original," I grunted.

He put a finger to the side of his nose. "In *Stilton*?"

I sat down at this point; felt rather queasy, if you want the truth. "And what about the books?" I queried. "Wouldn't the books suffice?"

I rather fancy he became evasive at this moment: sort of shifted his feet, eyes going east and west.

"Ah yes — the books — I was getting to that. I was rather thinking that after a suitable interval we might, um, phase out the books."

"Phase out the books?"

"Yes, I thought we might."

"So," I moaned, "if I read this correctly, it would be your intention to phase out the books?"

"That, John, is my meaning," he confessed.

"Therefore," I followed up, "this whole charade has been nothing more than a veiled attempt to secure my premises for yet another restaurant — right?"

He admitted it, the end, and implored me to think it over. I said I would. I have thought it over, and I think I'll stay; that way I'll be able to keep the books while patronizing other people's restaurants when and if I am inclined. Deep-down, I seem to be the sort of chap who likes both to have his stoat and eat it.

صلى الله عليه وسلم



Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

OFFICIALDOM WINS AGAIN

The great, and almost certainly increasing, majority of faithful Tories would want to get the gallowes back and would also not be ill-disposed to the judicial use of the cane and the birch. The assumption that these preferences arise from atavistic instincts in Conservative culture is not wholly true; they spring from genuine and growing alarm about the rise of violent crime.

Yet what is a Tory government to do? There is a solid convention, which nobody challenges and which everybody can invoke, that the question of capital punishment is an issue of conscience which has to be left to a free vote of the Commons. The Commons, whenever consulted, rejects restoration. It did so as recently as last April by a majority of 112. It would certainly do so again.

This is a perfect escape route for a Tory government. It has been particularly helpful to Mrs Thatcher, who believes in capital punishment, but who might find actually introducing it to be something of an additional hazard to her "image". It is also useful to Mr Hurd who, (as he repeated when he replied to the Tory conference law and order debate yesterday) does not believe in it. He was able cheerfully to accept an amendment demanding that the rope should again be put to the vote in the Commons. We must, he argued, respect each other's conscientious convictions on the matter. Whatever he may have lost by not personally approving of hanging, he must have gained by his courage in admitting the option.

The Tories, beleaguered by modern psychological and sociological speculation, are now shy about being too zealous over the birch and the cane, though both weapons still evidently have a place in their hearts and probably in the hearts of the public at large when the subject is, say, football violence.

On this issue, it is not necessary to state a case. However, if a case for doing nothing had to be stated it would be an extremely easy one. Such strange punishments would not be tolerated by the European Court of Human Rights, and who would suggest that we should leave that organisation? Well, quite a few, but

they have long since been silenced by official respectability.

So Mr Hurd had to plough the weary furrow trodden by most of his post-war predecessors, and with conspicuous success by R. A. Butler: to seem to be a strong man, but one deprived of apparently strong measures. To this challenge he responded with marked success. His first device was to adopt a new voice, more vigorous, down to earth and mildly plebeian than that with which inheritance endowed him. His second was to announce a series of measures, within the limits of officialdom's consensus, designed to discourage crime.

Of these there was one which was serious and excellent: he intends to make it possible in future for the Attorney General with the consent of the Court of Appeal to allow an appeal against too lenient a sentence. The original idea — that the Court of Appeal should simply be permitted to comment on such a sentence in order to discourage the repetition of the error — has been dropped. The appeal, if successful, would now lead to a more severe sentence.

There will, of course, be objections to this on the ground that it would be unkind to criminals who, having heard and welcomed their sentences, would have to wait for further consideration. This, however, is not a strong argument, and the Home Secretary should be congratulated on having rejected it.

He also announced his measures for restricting the sale of dangerous weapons and a particular one to ban the carrying of knives in public places without due reason. This last addition to our armoury against crime is also welcome, if a bit overdue.

Yet, at the end of Mr Hurd's speech, the gulf remains between officialdom's view and the popular view of what is necessary to control crime. Another Tory Home Secretary after him will have to make an almost precisely similar speech, and he will not get a standing ovation either. The gulf is not of any party political importance, but is of immense national importance, since the people should have confidence in the capacity of the State to protect them.

POLITICAL JUDGMENT

The idea of a country being convulsed over the appointment of a judge, as the United States has been in the matter of Mr Bork, is still difficult for the British to grasp. The British, apart from a few devout believers in the notion of "the Conservative Establishment", still think of judges as being, on the whole, judicial.

Most Britons do not think of judges as being "political". Some Britons to the left of centre do. But their definition of a "political" action by a judge tends to cover so many contingencies as to be meaningless. This was especially noticeable during Britain's great age of trade union power in the 1970s and early 1980s. If, say, a court released trade unionists who had been jailed for apparently illegal industrial action, it was said that the court only acted because the Establishment was frightened of the unions. It wanted to avoid a strike at all costs. If the same court kept the same trade unionists in jail, it was because the Establishment wanted "confrontation".

In the United States, the courts really have become political, and the most political of all is the Supreme Court.

Being a President whose vulgar reputation is uncompromisingly conservative, but whose deeds are rather more mild, Mr Reagan nominated for the Supreme Court a man with the same reputation — but also the same deeds. Mr Reagan's opponents concentrated on the reputation. It was not true, for example, that Judge Bork wanted the Supreme Court to outlaw abortion. He would prefer that abortion be decided by the people's elected representatives in the state legislatures rather than by judges — by makers of the law, rather than interpreters of it.

Nor was it true that Judge Bork is "racist" or "sexist". He is against job quotas based on race and gender — a very different matter. He was

once party to a ruling giving air stewards the right to sue an airline because they were not getting the same pay as men. In five years on the Federal bench, none of Judge Bork's more than 100 judgments has been overturned by the Supreme Court to which he was said to be such a threat.

None of the facts mattered. Judge Bork became a symbol over whom conservative and liberals raged. A liberal lobby hired Mr Gregory Peck to do radio and television commercials denouncing him. A newspaper, hoping to show that he was a hypocrite, found out what he rented from his local video shop. (Cary Grant and Hitchcock, it emerged.) In the end, the politicians of the Senate Judiciary Committee judged that Mr Reagan was no longer the force he was, and thought it safe to recommend against Judge Bork.

All this is what happens with written constitutions or with bills of rights of which only supreme courts can be the final arbiters. Responsibilities which are rightly those of parliament are seized by judges, or forced upon them by politicians who would rather someone else took the blame if things go wrong. Judges become mired in the routine buffooneries of politics — where conservatives are depicted as reactionaries and, when circumstances change, liberals are depicted as subversives. A scholarly and articulate man such as Mr Bork must endure cross-examination by a stumbling Senator Edward Kennedy.

Yet there are those who would introduce bits of this system to Britain. America's written constitution has enough other merits to outweigh the defect of politicised judges. That is unlikely to be the case here. As well as being a great blow to Mr Reagan, Judge Bork's fate is a warning to Britain.

MORE PRIME TIME

Yesterday's rise in prime lending rates in the US, like the previous one last month, was less a cure for rising inflation than a precaution against it. It is part of a general tuning up of counter-inflation policy which is taking place around the world now that economic growth appears in many countries to be picking up.

Financial markets had already prepared for the increase and yesterday reacted little. Some traders believe that there are probably more rises still to come. But the general tightening of policy should help to build a platform from which rates can in due course start to come down again.

Rates have now risen in most of the leading countries since the first half of the year. Britain was one of the first to move with a 1 per cent rise in bank base rates at the beginning of August. The US discount rate was increased by ½ per cent last month, and in Japan rates for long dated securities have been rising sharply as bond prices fall. At the beginning of this week the Bundesbank also began to push up its market dealing rates — somewhat against the spirit of the recent meetings in Washington when it denied there was any tightening in German policy.

Although the scale of the moves is different in each country — reflecting differences in their relative vulnerability to inflationary pressures — the story behind them is much the same. In the first half of the year the major economies, with the exception of Britain, were growing very slowly while inflation rates were mostly low as a result of the fall in oil prices. The priority therefore was to stimulate faster growth: interest rates were cut and some fiscal stimulus administered.

Since then growth in Japan in particular has accelerated rapidly not because of higher exports but because of faster growth in domestic demand. The Japanese economy is now expected to grow this year by 3.3% per

cent compared for instance with a forecast by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in June of only 2 per cent. The balance of priorities has therefore turned towards containing inflation.

The same is true to a lesser degree elsewhere. In Germany the outlook for the year is still unexciting — growth of 1½ per cent according to the recent forecast by the International Monetary Fund — but with some pick-up in the second half. Higher interest rates were necessary, the Bundesbank President, Herr Karl Otto Poehl, said, to slow monetary growth and ensure long-term control over inflation. In the US too the most recent indicators of new orders and consumer confidence are buoyant.

In these circumstances moves towards higher interest rates are entirely consistent with the call by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, and the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, at last week's IMF meeting to ensure that co-ordinated policies did not mean co-ordinated inflation. Some tightening of policies worldwide was probably desirable. But the US move also has implications for its economic profile relative to the rest of the world.

Given higher interest rates in Japan and Germany the US could not easily stand by and expect the dollar to stay within the range allegedly reaffirmed in Washington. In any case the new chairman of the Federal Reserve, Mr Alan Greenspan, will doubtless have seen some virtue in establishing his anti-inflation credentials early on with the possibility of bringing rates down during election year rather than having to put them up.

How far another half per cent on interest rates will support the dollar remains to be seen. Although the trade deficit is gradually improving, the volume terms it seems unlikely that the dollar is out of the wood yet.

A cruel choice for the Fijians

From Professor Emeritus G. B. Milne

Mr Enoch Powell (article, October 2) overstates his case when he declares that the outcome in Fiji "matters not a rap... to the United Kingdom". It is not only a matter of logic and constitutional law.

In 1874 Queen Victoria's envoy accepted from the chiefs of Fiji the cession of their country to the British Crown in perpetuity, in token of which the paramount chief, in accordance with custom, surrendered his war club with a basketful of Fijian earth. Earlier, the Fijians had lost a large area of their country to white settlers, largely under false pretences.

The Queen undertook to protect their lands and in fact a wise and far-seeing succession of colonial servants ensured that the communal system of land tenure was upheld and native land rights protected against further encroachments.

In return, the Fijians have given, both in peace and war, many proofs of their unwavering loyalty to the Crown. For instance, in the 1940s they raised two battalions which saw active service against the Japanese and one of their sons won a Victoria Cross during the Second World War.

What is not always understood is that only 200 years ago the Fijians were a neolithic people, whose traditional religion was loosely bound up with the land, the chiefs and the ancestors. Even today their Christian faith goes hand in hand with much older beliefs. "The land is our blood and our bones," they would say. "We hold it in trust from the ancestors and for our children. We can no more sell it than we can sell our sons and daughters."

Right to silence

From Lord Hutchinson, QC

Sir, All those who wish to maintain our civil liberties and political rights should be aware of the authoritarian pressures which the Government is now exerting on the criminal process in this country.

It is clear that it wishes to end the right of silence; abolish jury trial in "difficult" cases; give the Court of Appeal power to increase any sentence passed in the crown courts; remove the extradition process from judicial examination and make it a purely executive act between governments; enable persons to be convicted on hearsay evidence; continue in active use section 2 of the Official Secrets Act.

Lawyers tend to grow more impatient, authoritarian, and reactionary as they grow older — see the recent correspondence in your columns and the astonishingly intemperate attacks on the freedom of the press by certain law lords in the *Spectator* article.

The technique of the "old brigade" in debate is to set themselves up as the radicals, as against the young who actually practise (prosecutors and defence), represented by the Criminal Bar Association and the Law Society, who, in seeking to resist the dismantling of safeguards against oppression and malpractice, are pilloried as diehards, seeking to maintain "outmoded rules" for personal advantage.

The issue of the abolition of the right to silence was debated at length before the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure (1981) with the result that the commission found that abolition "would be contrary to the very nature of the accusatorial system". Even the Roskill committee

Sign posts

From Mr John R. Waters

Sir, Over the last few years I have been intrigued to note the increased use of supplementary adjectives to describe foreign cities featuring in news reports.

The latest example to come to my notice is in your report (October 5) on the latest designs in Fiji, specifically in "the western city" of Nadi. I seem to recall that it all started with reports of the rise of Solidarity in "the northern city" of Bydgoszcz and the "southern city" of Krakow; then we had the Aytollah in "the holy city" of Qom; and a recent World Service news bulletin referred to "the northern city" of Manchester.

Where will it end, if at all? It does offer an excellent opportunity for identification and self-promotion: for example, "the cathedral city" of Salisbury, "the carpet town" of Kidderminster... and so forth. Yours faithfully, JOHN R. WATERS, 4 Cornberton Court, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

Small dividends

From Dr Alex Comfort

Sir, Every time a dividend is declared, English companies send out a snowstorm of cheques amounting, after tax deduction, to less than £5 — sometimes to less than £1. If the Government succeeds in generating more small shareholders there will be more and more of them. At the lower end of the scale, the cost of sending out the cheques and chasing those which escape uncashed must exceed the dividends earned.

Most American companies operate automatic reinvestment plans. When I have asked English companies to copy, I have been

Given this background, when the British Crown gave up sovereignty over Fiji, many Fijians would argue that the island group should have been handed back to the chiefs and not to universal suffrage. Democracy has long existed in Fiji through discussion and consensus, decisions being taken by a chief in the seat of honour who, as with the Quakers, "senses the feeling of the meeting".

But the Fijians are not happy with the ballot box, if for no other reason than that it is a modern institution, even in Britain, which in Fiji must sooner or later give the non-Fijian majority political control, in addition to a long-established economic dominance.

It is true that under the 1970 constitution the traditional system of land tenure was given strong safeguards, but there is much fear that even those might one day be swept aside.

The tragedy of the present crisis is that the Fijians are faced with a cruel choice between their Queen and their country. Either they abandon their loyalty to the Crown to face a friendless world and economic disaster, perhaps aggravated by the sanctions of the Commonwealth including, most cruelly of all, their oldest friend, Britain; or they break faith with their ancestors and resign themselves to a gradual erosion of Fijian culture, identity and values, suffering the humiliation of an underprivileged minority in its own country, like the Australian aboriginals or the American Indians.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, GEORGE MILNER, Cross Tree Cottage, Lopen, South Petherton, Somerset.

(1986) believed that the right should be retained.

Most miscarriages of justice over the last decade have been due to the putting in evidence of what has later been shown to be a false confession.

When the eleventh report of the Criminal Law Revision Committee suggested abolition in 1972, Dr Manfred Simon, a French judge consulted by the committee said:

The proposal seems to me the first timid attempt to dismantle the venerable fortress built by many generations of British lawyers to protect the innocent and to challenge the arbitrary action of government. It is a sad illustration of the insidious process whereby standards of even the most civilised countries can subtly but irresistibly be eroded.

It is indeed depressing to realise now, that when the Government finally conceded the compensatory rights of the individual citizen enshrined in the codes of practice issued under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, it had all along decided that once the Act had come into force it would launch a well-orchestrated campaign to remove the very foundations on which those hard-won rights were based.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY HUTCHINSON, House of Lords.

Harrier role

From Lieutenant-Commander Michael Brotherton, RN (ret)

Sir, Sir John Nott writes (article, October 5): "The next Labour Government foolishly agreed to the maritime Harrier."

I wonder if Her Majesty's loyal subjects in the Falkland Islands would agree. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, MICHAEL BROTHERTON, The Old Vicarage, Wrange, Boston, Lincolnshire.

All of a glitter

From Mr Hamill Westwood

Sir, The Chairman of the British Hallmarking Council (October 3) expresses concern at the low level of fines imposed for offences under the Hallmarking Act concerning 9 carat gold. He would do a greater service to the public if he expressed concern at the misuse of the term "gold" in describing jewellery which contains only 37.5 per cent (9 carat) of that metal.

The use of this legalised false trade description does little credit to the British trader in so far as the great majority of gold jewellery sold in our shops is of this debased standard. In Europe, only Italy sinks to the same level.

No article should be allowed the description "gold" unless containing 75 per cent (18 carat) or more of gold. After all, silverware must contain at least 92.5 per cent of silver and platinum at least 95 per cent of platinum.

Yours faithfully, HAMILL WESTWOOD, 21 High Street, Dunster, Somerset.

told that the Inland Revenue objects to a mysterious excuse, since unit trusts operate automatic reinvestment already.

If the Government is serious in encouraging small investors, it might be represented to it that reinvestment plans stabilize shareholdings (one has to ask for a certificate before the shares can be sold); constitute a painless, if not always judicious, form of saving; and are no harder to assess for tax than dividends. What on earth is it waiting for? I am, Sir, etc. ALEX COMFORT, The Windmill House, The Hill, Cranbrook, Kent, October 2.

Bucharest under the bulldozers

From Mrs Jessica Douglas-Home

Sir, In November, 1985, your letters column carried information concerning the destruction of vast areas of Bucharest — Byzantine churches, neo-classical buildings and 16th, 17th and 18th-century quarters were being razed to the ground to make way for Ceausescu's Victory of Socialism Boulevard.

Last week I returned from Bucharest with a map showing new areas scheduled for demolition — not this time to produce a parade area for Ceausescu's socialist heroics, but so as to ensure that history is entirely buried and the memories of the Romanian people are extinguished. Only then, it seems, will Bucharest be a truly socialist city.

It is thought that many of the threatened buildings (which include the patriarchal cathedral of the Romanian Orthodox Church and 60 or 70 other churches) have

a few weeks' respite before the bulldozers move in. There is still time, therefore, for protests to be made. This wanton demolition concerns not only Romania, but the whole of Europe. The destruction of Bucharest is as devastating a blow to our heritage as was the obliteration of Dresden and as would be the razing of Vienna or Prague.

Representations to Unesco have proved useless, for Unesco is no longer a neutral body and does its best to deflect any criticism of the communist Power. It therefore falls on the British Government, the European Community and the United States to put what pressure they can on a regime which may be reluctant to lose the little respect which still remains to it.

Yours sincerely, JESSICA DOUGLAS-HOME, 63 Hilgate Place, W8, October 5.

Help for the deaf

From the Chief Executive, Royal National Institute for the Deaf

Sir, You report ("Ministers in fight for £3bn", October 2) the scale of the gap between spending departments' bids and planned Treasury targets. The "Star Chamber" will meet to adjudicate. I fear the loss of a sense of perspective when such sums are at issue.

When the RNID met with John Major last autumn in his previous post at the DHSS — one of the departments still at loggerheads with the Treasury — he promised to take a personal interest in the points of concern we raised: the chronic shortages of interpreters, audiology technicians and social workers with deaf people; the threatened collapse of the Council for the Advancement of Communication with Deaf People (CACDP); and the length of waiting times for the fitting of hearing aids.

A sum equal to 0.001 per cent of the reduction in departmental bids currently sought by John Major, if allocated across the range of services for deaf people, would have a profound impact on the present very desperate short-fall.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL WHITLAM, Chief Executive, The Royal National Institute for the Deaf, 105 Gower Street, WC1.

Hungerford charity

From Mr Anthony Spiers

Sir, The law of charity is another, but obscure, casualty of the tragedy at Hungerford.

Those responsible, at Hungerford, for receiving public donations have continued the recent trend not to set up a "conventional" charity because, so we are informed (feature, September 4), the advice that they have received is that that is not the best means of ensuring the money is swiftly and rightly used for the benefit of the victims and their families.

As your contributor, Barbara Amiel, noted, setting up a "conventional" charity puts trustees in a strait-jacket of regulations when it comes to deciding who needs or deserves money.

How can it be that civic leaders prefer to utilise a private discretionary trust (over which there is no, or at best doubtful, control by or on behalf of the public) to a properly constituted charity?

In recent years, following disasters such as the loss of the Penlee lifeboat, the Bradford stadium fire and now Hungerford, those organising appeals have chosen private discretionary trusts as the best vehicle for relief. All cannot be well with the law of charity when public figures do not utilise it in events such as these.

Yours truly, ANTHONY SPIERS, The Court House, Stratton, Bude, Cornwall.

Everyone a winner

From Professor H. H. Huxley

Sir, Mr Bernard Levin ("In a class of their own", September 28) in an otherwise fair article is less than fair to Carroll's Dodo, who dealt astutely with a motley assortment of animals "all dripping wet, cross and uncomfortable".

The single object of the caucus-race was to get the creatures dry; this object was achieved with 100 per cent success. There were no "unteachables" here! Moreover, since the saturated competitors "began running when they liked", none could be a loser.

Mr Levin is too modest to remind his readers that Carroll has in mind the foot race in the *Aeneid*, where Aeneas himself promises that no contestant will fail to receive a present — *nemo ex hoc numero mihi non donatus abibit*. Yours in affish thought, H. H. HUXLEY, 12 Derwent Close, Cambridge.

Double indemnity

From Mr Frank Lewis

Sir, While browsing in my local branch of W. H. Smith the other day I came across the following: "De Luxe wedding album. Refillable."

Is this not carrying the principle of built-in obsolescence a little far? Yours faithfully, FRANK LEWIS, 24 Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, October 4.

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 8 1862

'LES MISÉRABLES' BANNED AS PLAY

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Oct. 7, 7 a.m.

The prohibition by the committee charged with the examination of plays of a drama founded on Victor Hugo's romance *Les Misérables* was mentioned to you a fortnight ago. The French are by this time pretty well inured to arbitrary measures of this kind, often the result of the petty spite of high officials, and which, when they affect only a few individuals, are soon forgotten by the public, unnoted though they in principle may be. Several journals, especially those which occupy themselves exclusively with theatrical matters, made such comments as they dared upon the case, which was certainly a hard one. The noise that the novel had made in the world insured success and a long run to the piece. The drama was ready, and from it had been carefully excluded and censored every word which it was thought possible could offend the sensitive ear of the censor. A run of 200 nights and a profit of 10,000 francs were confidently reckoned upon. The veto which overthrew this pleasant prospect, ruining the hopes alike of dramatists and of manager, would, however, by this time perhaps have been forgotten by the general public but for a recent meaningless paragraph in the *Moniteur*, reviving its memory. The official journal, proficient in the art of saying nothing in many words, declares that the play has been interdicted on the report of the committee of examination of dramatic works, and that the committee in question is guided in its decisions by its opinion, only by the documents laid before it. Nevertheless, if private information, on which I have good reason to rely, be correct, some rather singular circumstances have attended this affair. About a month ago the Variétés Theatre sent into the censor's office one of those bourgeois "reviews" of the year which it is here customary to bring out at its close. In this piece there was a scene, or rather a tableau, called *Les Misérables*. Everywhere, in which the author exhibited a worthy Paris bourgeois, whose head had been half turned by reading that terrible romance, and who, whichever way he looked, fancied he beheld released convicts and assassins ready to rob and murder him. The censors approved the piece as a whole but reserved their decision with respect to that scene, which they referred to the Minister of State, who at once declared it inadmissible. It was an attempt, he said, against the security of the empire, for it supplied "a pedestal" to M. Victor Hugo's work, which, in Count Walewski's eyes, is of the most subversive tendency. "And, speaking of that," his Excellency is reported to have said to M. Camille Doucet, chief of the theatrical division of his department, "is it true that they are dramatizing *Les Misérables*?" He was answered in the affirmative. "For what reason?" He was told that it was for the Ambigu Comique. "Very well," M. Doucet continued Count Walewski, "then you will inform the management that it had better not incur charges for its getting up. I prohibit it."

"Beforehand, Excellency?" poor Doucet, timidly inquired. "Yes, beforehand," Chelly, the manager of the Ambigu, was immediately sent for to the Ministry, and informed of the misfortune that had just fallen upon his theatre, and for which a single word of M. Walewski had sufficed. The unlucky manager remonstrated against such a tyrannical and unprecedented measure. M. Chelly [sic] then wrote to the Minister, stating this, and asking authorization to send the prohibited piece to the Committee of Examination. This was granted. The author, as a favour, was allowed to send his work to be censored. Of course the censors took the Ministerial view, and the drama was duly and (this time) legally forbidden. It is supposed that no "review" or other theatrical piece in which the *Misérables* shall be in any way noticed, or its characters introduced, will be allowed to pass muster.

THE ARTS

Weird tension

Road (BBC2) was a brutal, brilliant and absolutely original film by Alan Clarke (who directed *Scum*) of the Jim Cartwright play first seen at the Royal Court.

Cartwright's extraordinary text is a highly stylized, almost ritualistic meditation on deprivation and despair in a northern town. But it resists the temptation to descend into agitprop: the issues here are

TELEVISION

only political in so far as they involve individuals' varying ability to escape the dead hand which life has dealt them.

Everyone we see is in the gutter, but some of them are obliquely looking at the stars. In powerful, wrenching monologues, delivered in relentless walks along old-fashioned Lancashire streets, artificially depopulated, those who cannot come to terms with change, those who have grown to loathe the people they spend their lives with, articulate their disgust. Behind the grim facades of boarded-up terraces, other dramas are glimpsed: a couple can only make their existence real by starving to death; a tart and a soldier do not approach reality in their game of surreal emotions.

At the centre is the weird duo of Brink (Neil Dudgeon) and Eddie (William Armstrong), an up-tempo Gilbert and George, who pick up Carol (Mossie Smith) and Louise (Jane Horrocks) at a grim and ghastly dance-hall unflinchingly observed by the director. They trade insults, rule out sex; what more is there to do? Like all the characters, they know there must be more to life than this.

The play's literally incredible quasi-liturgical ending depended on an accumulated tension which I would have thought really possible only in the theatre, but given the total commitment of both acting and direction one could only suspend disbelief. A haunting and important film.

Please God, Don't Let Peace Break Out (BBC1) was one of those clever-clever documentaries in which all who appear condemn themselves out of their own mouths and the viewer (and even more, one suspects, the interviewer) is left feeling thoroughly superior.

The obscene amount of money spent world-wide on armaments need highlighting: the film's method was to observe the winning and dining involved in the selling and demonstrating of such weapons which goes on at the Paris Air Show. The point was well made in 10 minutes: the film droned on for an hour with endless aircraft looping around in the skies. The military equipment demonstrated was certainly expensive, but the film was a cheap shot.

William Holmes



Crispin Glover, an actor of considerable fascination, as the neurotic but dominant outsider menaced by Dennis Hopper's eccentric recluse in *River's Edge*

Dark visions of youth

CINEMA

River's Edge (18)
Curzon West End

Beverly Hills Cop II
Plaza

Hearts of Fire (15)
Odeon Marble Arch

The Armour of God (15)
Prince Charles

What Happened to Kerouac? (15)
ICA

Tin Hunter's *River's Edge* brings a dark and brooding element to the youth film. It is based on a true case of a teenage schoolboy who murdered his girlfriend. The film begins with a malevolent small boy, in the process of drowning his sister's favourite doll, witnessing a hulking, half-witted boy strangling a girl beside the river. The killer is too dumb or unconcerned to hide the evidence. The news quickly spreads among his classmates, who - out of a confusion of clan loyalty and mistrust of the police - swear a pact of secrecy.

"The sadness," Hunter has said in an interview, "comes from the real lack of intellectual resources that these kids have with which to make their own decisions and build their own lives. They just don't know a goddamned thing. They don't read. They're not educated. They have no sense of culture or history." As youth films go, this is a new and cautionary angle, to the familiar idyll of the American small town (apparently in Oregon) and the cosy hierarchies of its high school.

The film is most original and perceptive in describing the young people's fumbling efforts to grapple with the situation, and the relationships, tensions and changing ascendancies among them. Outside the children's world Hunter seems less assured: the grown-up elements - the broken homes, the hippy-generation teacher and Dennis Hopper's eccentric recluse, cohabiting with an inflatable doll and selling drugs to the kids - seem stereotypical beside the lively characterizations of the youngsters. Crispin Glover as the neurotic outsider who nevertheless dominates the group is an actor of considerable fascination however far over the top he goes.

The public, according to the old showman's adage, is never wrong; and in the past 18 weeks the public of America (or at least a section of it) has spent something like \$100 million to see *Beverly Hills Cop II*, it can hardly be shrugged off as one more bad movie. Clearly this is a film that gives the public exactly what it wants.

The formula for the original *Beverly Hills Cop* was achieved almost by accident. The script was intended for Sylvester Stallone but, when he was not available, someone had the happy inspiration to put Eddie Murphy into it instead, thereby producing an odd cross-breed of cop thriller and farce. It proved effective beyond expectations and the film became one of the all-time top 10 box-office attractions, with rentals estimated at \$108 million.

The great mass of that money was paid by the teen and twenties age-group. Their demands are simple but insistent: music, violent action, comedy and sex. Sex is the least important and is preferred physical, without emotional confusions. Plot and credibility are not important at all; in *Beverly Hills Cop II* is a rough copy of its predecessor, full of loose ends and unlikely coincidences. The English director Tony Scott, after his success with *Top Gun*, has supplied the desiderata. Harold Faltermeyer's music is loud and exciting, with a dozen vocals thrown in, and enhances

the sense of frenzy in the action and editing. The demands made on comedy are not high. Insults are the essence of it, and any one of the standard four-letter words is certain to get a laugh. The simplest things, in fact, please this good-natured audience enormously. There is also, of course, Eddie Murphy, who seems undaunted at deploying his elegant skills in this rough house. Even though they are sometimes obscured here, he has style and an electric energy all his own; and it is easy to see his appeal for young movie audiences as he moves through California, outsmarting everyone in his track with wondrous fabrications.

The audience in the end makes its own choices. A current case in point is *La Bamba*, which has probably taken around \$40 million at the American box-office in the past nine weeks. A modest rock bio-pic without stars or prior publicity hype, its success has no doubt surprised the distributors as much as anybody else. In this case the magic seems to have been achieved by a quite unpredictable factor: teenage girls have responded phenomenally and maternally to the sad story of Ritchie Valens, a virtual 17-year-old Mexican rock star who died in the Buddy Holly air crash after a career of eight months and three hit singles.

It remains to be seen whether *Hearts of Fire* has hit upon an equally winning formula. It does, it does money's worth in terms of music, with a score of vocal numbers. The test will be whether Bob Dylan, who performs six of them, has still the same attraction for an audience most of whom were not born when he was already an established star; and whether, on the strength of her first two albums, Fiona Finnegan - a spirited song-better - can bring in her own audience.

The handicap is the banal and clumsily written script by Scott Richardson and Joe Eszterhas. This has Ms. Finnegan as a rising rock luminary, torn between Dylan as a world-weary former star and Rupert Everett playing a petulant and pretentious English star with two expressions and a creative block. The film aims patently to seduce its

audiences with wish-dreams of the life of rock stars with their limos, helicopters, groupies, stately homes done over as electronic toy towns, and licence to insult people and smash up hotel rooms. Shot in London and Toronto, *Hearts of Fire* was, sadly, the last film of the Welsh-born director Richard Marquand, who had his biggest success with *Return of the Jedi*, and died last month at the age of 49.

The teenagers' idol of the Far East, Jackie Chan appears dubbed and in European settings in *The Armour of God*, which he also directed. Chan's speciality is prolonged trajectories of acrobatic comedy action, in which he has been surpassed only by Buster Keaton. They are however rather few and far between here, and weighed down by the talky convolutions of a silly story about the pursuit of a priceless suit of armour.

Chan is undoubtedly less at home in tourist Europe than in his familiar Hong Kong, with its narrow streets, markets and mysterious no man's lands. Nor is it to be wondered at if the star is below par, since he was practically killed in a stunt while making the film. With an engaging mixture of eccentricity and parody, he uses shots of himself being carried off after the accident in the end credits.

Finally there is a reminder of how it was to be young (for some, anyway) 30 years ago, in *What Happened to Kerouac?* Filmed at a seminar, the old comrades of the Beat Generation come together again to remember Kerouac as friend, artist and inspiration. Allen Ginsberg wears a suit and tie today, and the beautiful Gregory Corso is shaggy and toothless; but withered William Burroughs never changes. Middle-aged-spreading women recall days and nights of passion. Kerouac himself appears on film - lean, young, intense and reading from *On the Road*; and then, just before his death, prematurely aged, drunk and outrageously sending up William Buckley's television show. You do not learn too much about his art, but there are insights into the less than serene life that produced it.

David Robinson

Vain shot at reclamation

THEATRE

Nightmare Abbey
Croydon Warehouse

Occupying a place midway between *Love's Labour's Lost* and John Whiting's *A Penny for a Song*, Peacock's anti-romantic satire is a great English comedy of the early 1800s, but what Peacock wrote is a novel.

Eleanor Zeal's adaptation for Theatre Caddis is the latest attempt to reclaim it for the stage, and it would be nice to say that she makes a virtue out of the necessity of writing for a troupe of four girls emerging from a quick-change screen.

The text at least punches over the main plot-points. Establishing the remote mansion on the Lincolnshire Fens where celebrated idols of the romantic agony cluster like pampered vampire bats, Scythrop (alias Shelley) meditates in a ruined tower, while his guest Flosky (Coleridge) parades the funeral grounds firing metaphysical salvos at all who cross his path. Sepulchral servants attend Scythrop's grim old father, and there is a resident religious fanatic who wanders on and off banging a gong. As in Shakespeare's comedy, the arrival of two eligible girls then puts the vows of the aesthetic hermits to the test.

There are passages in Paul Daddwell's production (on tour from Edinburgh) that spring to life: such as a puppet-show

which Scythrop (who is hiding a girl) improvises with a book and feather to put his father off the scent; or a scene in which the other girl is driven to tears of rage by Flosky's bookish replies to her down-to-earth questions. In general, though, this is a sad specimen of the penalties of poverty theatre. The set, crudely painted and offering a few ivy-twined bits of matchwood to suggest arbours and pergolas, would be better disposed of altogether.

Rapid cast-doubling - as in the Donmar Warehouse production of *Teachers* - can be enormous fun. But here one only wishes there were enough actors to go round.

Clad in baggy thermal underwear, the company distinguishes separate characters by means of padded stomachs, ill-fitting top hats and other gross externals. They scamper about, grimace and gabble like fruitlessly energetic insects trapped in a jam-jar. When they do slow up to deliver a line with appropriate weight, it is well worth hearing.

The art of being miserable for misery's sake has been brought to great perfection in our time. But, if one thing is lacking in this revived spectacle, it is the demonstration of privileged melancholy. Miss Zeal has her moments as the lascivious recluse; but she is much better in the small role of an onion-festooned French servant in which she is not setting out to prove anything.

Irving Wardle

All-Hallow-Eve
Volunteer Hall, Galashiels

The first Borders Festival of Ballads and Legends provides an ideal opportunity for the first performance of a play written some 170 years ago by that most allusive of Scottish literary figures, James Hogg.

In Hogg's native *Scottish Borders*, and in his play *All-Hallow-Eve*, we are in the land of tall tales, of superstition and of evil spirits. The beautiful Gellie accepts the fate foretold her by a pair of weird sisters, forswears her sweetheart, Gellie, and marries the laird. But the witches have been encouraged to make these prophecies by the Laird's servants. So when Gellie dies of a broken heart, also as the witches have predicted, is it their voodoo which does for him, or Gellie's betrayal?

This kind of quality was Hogg's enduring fascination. He deliberately blurs the real and the imaginary, the actor and the acted upon. What gives the play away as an apprentice work is his attempt to bring it to a firm conclusion, albeit an unhappy one, as the Laird runs amok and kills his

new bride, and the witches are revealed as little more than confidence tricksters. Later, in his extraordinary novel *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*, he was to leave similar ambiguities hanging unresolved.

On this evidence, Hogg was clearly no great dramatist. Structurally the play is a mess, with three false endings and any number of loose ends of plot and character left trailing. Some of the language sounds like a schoolboy aping Shakespeare. On the other hand, there are moments of considerable power, mostly when the stuttering poetry suddenly takes flight and a sense of the supernatural hovers.

Whatever the shortcomings of the play, they are not helped by Roman Paterson's production for the Northumberland Theatre Company. It needs a strong sense of conviction about every moment to make sense of the volatile mixture of soaring poetry and rampant supernaturalism. Instead, it comes over as a stodgy melodrama which makes the poetry sound worse than it is, and makes a nonsense of the supernatural.

Robert Dawson Scott

BBCPO/Downes
Free Trade Hall, Manchester

Michael Ball is a composer whose fascination with the orchestra shows itself in a consummate mastery of colours and textures. His *Dances vives: danses macabres* - commissioned by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and first performed as the opening work in their new season of Free Trade Hall concerts - lasts a little over 20 minutes and uses just about every sound-combination that is available within the traditional orchestral palette.

He broadens his spectrum still further with a heavy emphasis on tuned percussion instruments; but the formula works particularly because he succeeds in presenting all these sounds without cluttering the ear. Everything is given enough musical space to register its individuality. The pace is neatly varied, and the music is unified by a certain motivic economy.

Which makes it all the more surprising that it was difficult

to hear any obvious formal coherence in the work. Despite its double title, it is in a single movement, based on Hermann Hesse's *Marzisch und Goldmund*; and the idea is that tensions between the two fundamental sides of human existence should co-exist in the music.

The macabre element was clearly portrayed; dance, and particularly "vital dance", was less in evidence in this performance, though Edward Downes nevertheless directed what seemed a lucid and well-paced reading.

The orchestra responded in a way that suggested the work is uncommonly satisfying to play. But, if it flagged formally, that can perhaps be explained by the composer's observation that it is "a large orchestral sketch which might one day lead to an opera based on the Hesse". That is of course a standard get-out clause for a composer who is aware that his completed work does not quite hold together. Certainly, the material is there. It just needs a different kind of formal context to give it life.

David Fallows

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OPERA
Così fan tutte
Glyndebourne

Glyndebourne Touring Opera are winding down Peter Hall's *Così fan tutte*. Those who have enjoyed the sunlit perception of his original production can catch it, now directed by Stephen Lawless, at Glyndebourne itself, in Oxford, Southampton, Manchester, Birmingham or Cambridge before its final demise. It is not the grand finale it could have been, but on the whole it is worth catching. In what has always been a consciously stage-managed production, Don Alfonso and Despina, as master and mistress of its ceremony, have had pride of place. Now they really come into their own. John Shirley-Quirk and Alison Hagley, a generation apart, provide a double act of superb comic timing and serious musical understanding.

Graeme Jenkins does too little either with his baton or his harpsichord to help the music or the singers to breathe. In a score so vibrant with sighing and heartbeat, tempo relationships are of the essence. For all its dramatic truthfulness, this production starts its journey with the voices under-coached and the orchestra under-rehearsed. And the quartet of lovers really do need all the help they can get. It is good to see and hear Mark Tinkler as a mellow Guglielmo, and to watch the ever-mobile facial responses of Anne Mason's Dorabella. But they both need a sharper perception of what to do with a line. The Fiordiligi and Ferrando present more serious problems. Annagere Stumphius draws a silverpoint line in ensemble, but lacks sheer power; while John Graham-Hall, unwisely cast, plays Ferrando at a banana-skin level of comedy, and sings the role correspondingly.

Hilary Finch

Firmly based

CONCERTS

Leningrad PO/
Yansons
Festival Hall/
Radio 3

The Leningrad Philharmonic stood the conventional programme on its head by starting their British tour with a symphony, Rachmaninov's Third. Mariss Yansons, their associate conductor, kept a firm control over the emotional content within its three-movement form, but also gave a lift to its sometimes dolorous spirit by his concern for rhythm and phrasing.

His platform layout for this most celebrated of Soviet orchestras is unusual to our eyes, with first and second violins separated to right and left, the horns on his right flanking the other brass, in which the tuba has the central position, and with nine dou-

ble-basses ranged on his left flank. One result was a splendidly sonorous foundation on which to build Rachmaninov's lyrical outpouring.

The conductor preferred to press ahead rather than repeat the first movement's exposition, in which the lovely theme on the cellos achieved a precisely calculated union, and the woodwind writing in the middle movement became a reminder that this symphony was post-Debussy in its composition. The fugal entries in descending order of strings in the finale were steps to a touch more ostentation in sentiment and spirit.

After the interval, Dmitri Alexeev was admirably ostentatious in the steely-fingered passagework with which he dispatched Prokofiev's First Piano Concerto, that exhilarating reaction to a Romantic heritage which Rachmaninov was still indulging 20 years later. For all its percussively exultant effect, however, this was essentially a serious-minded, musically satisfying



Yansons: emotional control performance, to which an unidentified piano encore was an attractive pendant.

The suite from Stravinsky's *Firebird* had a keen balance of colour and rhythm, with an uncommonly broad wingspan for the *Firebird* Dance, a brilliant trumpet to lead the Infernal Dance and a Lullaby more soothing than soothing. And then how marvellous to hear the Adagio from the *Nutcracker* pas de deux, resplendently played as a first encore. After last night's concert in Leicester, the tour continues to Warwick, Sheffield, Leeds and Nottingham, before returning to the South Bank next Tuesday.

Noël Goodwin

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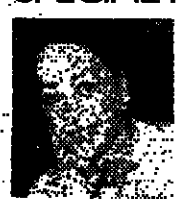
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BOOKS

A paradox of being Janus

If Oscar Wilde's fall from literary and social grace does not quite have the ring of classical tragedy, it is at least the first English melodrama that might have been rewritten by Racine. As Richard Ellmann explains, it all began so nobly. The young Wilde learnt from his mother, an Irish poet with a mission, that the two great principles of life are spectacle and rhetoric. He was also very clever, and although it is true that genuine transcendence never comes from rhetoric, that is why his first arena was that of university: he was a classicist at Dublin and an aesthete at Oxford, where his first recorded remark was "I find it harder and harder every day to live up to my blue china."

Blue china is never enough, however, and it was in London that Wilde tried unsuccessfully to grab the laurel wreath of the poet; in the end, he was happy to exchange it for the bright waistcoat of the flâneur. He did not mind being insulted, because by attracting mockery he won half the struggle for fame; and in any case it was part of his quixotically Irish sense of doom to believe that to be derided is to be blessed. He was an enormous success as a "personality" while he was still in his 20s, but to capture public attention so easily is not always an asset. In his case it was simply to leave the cage door ajar, from which eventually a monster would rush to devour him.

He had, in a sense, been waiting for that consummation of his life. But what he always referred to as his "doom" — it was generally coloured "purple" — really began when he was seduced at a relatively late age by Robert Ross, one of his most faithful friends, but that first affair was to lead Wilde towards a variety of young men who played

Peter Ackroyd reviews the new life of the man who had quite a lot more to declare than his genius

OSCAR WILDE
By Richard Ellmann
Hamish Hamilton, £15.00

the classic part of seducer and betrayer. Ellmann suggests that it was Wilde's discovery of his homosexuality which provoked his finest work, irradiated by "ironic frivolity, with dark intimations". There is a truth in that, but the influence of homosexuality upon art is difficult to ascertain, and there was in Wilde's character a fundamental innocence and joyfulness which seem to me to be the sources of his supreme achievement.

Contrary to what Wilde professed to believe, in other words, the work is always more important than the life. He professed to be indolent, too, but his productivity belies such an extravagant claim: within two years he had written *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and his great aesthetic dialogues, and he followed this by writing almost simultaneously *Lady Windermere's Fan* and *Salome* — comedy and tragedy both representing the Janus-face of Wilde himself, that curious mixture of fantasy and fatality which was to find its apotheosis in *The Importance of*

Being Earnest. That play is not a comedy but a work of art, and Wilde was right to believe that nature would be forced to imitate it. Single-handedly he created the Nineties in his own image and, as Ellmann suggests, that decade came to an end in 1895 when with bowed head Wilde entered prison.

Doom had finally arrived in the all too probable guise of Lord Alfred Douglas, who used Wilde as an accomplice both in his pursuit of what Ellmann calls "rough trade" (this is not a reference to the vegetables in Covent Garden Market, which Wilde described as "jade-coloured") and in his crusade against his mad father. Bosie emerges from Ellmann's pages in a much more garish light than ever before, but he is the only figure beyond Wilde himself to attract the biographer's serious attention. The other people congregated around him — including poor Constance, whom Wilde should never have married — seem curiously muted and even insignificant. There is really no one in *Oscar Wilde* except Oscar Wilde.

It is for this reason, however, that the biography is at its best when Wilde is truly alone. The prison sequences here are worthy of the artist whose tear-stains can still be seen on the manuscript of *De Profundis*, and Ellmann himself reaches artistry in his description of Wilde's final years of French exile — poor, weary, defeated, snubbed by inferiorities such as Henley and Hardy, and living with what then seemed the sure knowledge that his life had been a failure. "My heart," he said, "that chamber of leaden echoes"; and in that phrase one hears the true Wilde, unable to resist the poetry of his own suffering.

It will be said that there is little



Glyn Boyd Harris

new material in this biography but that is not the point; as Wilde said of painting, "Every portrait that is painted with feeling is a portrait of the artist, not of the sitter." So it is that Ellmann's Wilde is a complex and perhaps more serious person than is popularly believed. Certainly he emerges from these pages more coherently than he ever did in his lifetime, even if the coherence is really that of paradox — he was, as he said, "a problem for which there is no solution", proclaiming the sacred value of art while secretly sacrificing himself on the altar of life, mocking the world and yet

afraid of it, destroying moralistic pieties with his wit while at the same time condemning himself. One of his greatest remarks is that "Art is the most serious thing in the world, and the artist is the only person who is never serious." This is the final paradox and it is upon this — upon the spectacle of the frail or hysterical human being from whom issues immortal work — that Ellmann builds this massive biography. If it is not as great an achievement as his life of James Joyce, this is only appropriate. Wilde, after all, must always be given the last word.

Larks after Doomsday

FICTION

John Nicholson

GOLDEN DAYS

By Carolyn See

Century Hutchinson, £10.95

ABSURD COURAGE

By Nobuko Albery

Century Hutchinson, £11.95

MISTERIOSO

By Alan Plater

Methuen, £10.95

PRESUMED INNOCENT

By Scott Turow

Bloomsbury, £12.95

Freelance diamond specialist Edith Langley is terrified of everything: steamrollers, derailed trains, chemical spills, brush fires, and being the last to be chosen for a team. She has two ex-husbands to feed a paralysing anxiety about divorce, and the prospect of ending up whence she came (the sticks in Los Angeles) is driving her crazy. Recently enriched after a chance meeting with an elderly financial wizard, Edie can't stop reminding herself that what goes up must come down.

She is right. It does. But not in the shape of the personal disaster Edie is anticipating. Instead a blanket of nuclear missiles falls from the Californian sky to put paid to civilization as we know it. Heaven.

Carolyn See isn't the first novelist to explore the dramatic possibilities of World War Three. Nor is she the only one to have spotted similarities between the language of international belligerence and the way in which some men discuss sex. But she is the first writer I have encountered who possesses the wit to find humour in the Domesday scenario, and the imagination to contrive an Aftermath in which there are seeds of hope.

Not that Edie and her friends holed up in Topanga Canyon enjoy it when their hair and teeth fall out and other fleshy protuberances drop off. But they live through the initial blast, and fight radiation sickness with the well-tried Californian diet of rice, chia seeds, and evangelically-inspired optimism. When contamination levels fall, they slowly make their way down from the hills to meet up with fellow survivors at where else? — a beach party by the Pacific.

Although the holocaust doesn't arrive until the last quarter of the book, the message of *Golden Days* lies in Edie's discovery that when the bombs come, people on the whole get what they expect. The generals are devastated. So are those who stay in the city and the 90 per cent who make their way inland. It's the crackpots, the air-heads who carry on surfing while the ocean turns lukewarm (whoee!), those too wrapped up in their lives to get excited by Death descending, and above all those who relinquish control and take things as they come, who make out best.

Thus described, the book sounds more like a song from the Swinging Sixties or self-obsessed Seventies than the brisk martial music to which we all dance these days. Yet there is nothing nostalgic about Edie's earlier nervy pursuit of happiness amongst Hollywood producers, TV faith-healers, and other assorted charlatans. Miss See writes

tautly and with scathing elegance about contemporary Californian mores. *Golden Days* is one of the most original and entertaining books to come of America for a very long time. It is also one of the bravest.

Nobuko Albery is concerned with courage of a different kind — the sort Collette said every young girl needs even to contemplate matrimony. For reasons never made plain, Asako leaves her bewildered family in Japan for marriage to art-historian Tristram Harder. American by birth but upper class English by aspiration. And my, how Tristram aspires!

Quite how a Japanese bride fits into his life-plan is another of the unexplained mysteries in *Absurd Courage*. But Nobuko Albery leaves us in no doubt as to the hazards and humiliations a young Oriental woman can experience if she hitchhikes her wagon to the wrong sort of Westerner. Rarely can there have been a less well-suited couple for a marriage less likely to survive.

Asako needs courage in her creator, however, needs no less ingenuity, not only to keep us interested in the appalling Harders, but to make us accept the book's resolution. Fortunately, neither woman is found wanting. Nor is Rachel, the heroine of *Misterioso*, who discovers while sorting through her dead mother's papers that her father is actually her "father". She leaves the easy comfort of York for the seedier and less certain pleasures of Soho jazz clubs. Alan Plater is obviously thoroughly at home in Ronnie Scotland, if a little less sure about how to make uncomplicated plot last a whole novel.

No complaints about value-for-money with Scott Turow's *Presumed Innocent*. The only problem I have with this epic tussle between politics and justice in mid-America (no prizes for guessing the winner) is that George V. Higgins covers the same ground last year with *Imposers*.

NEW BOOKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

A Life of Bishop John A.T. Robinson, by Eric James (Collins, £15) Scholar, pastor, prophet, intellectual, influential churchman. An Irish Childhood, edited by A. Norman Jeffares and Antony Kamm (Collins, £15) Anthology from Gaels to Belfast today. *Chronicles of the Age of Chivalry*, edited by Elizabeth Hallam (Woodhead & Nicolson, £16.95) The first journals illustrated. France, by J. Fust, translated by Felipe Fernández-Armesto (Unwin Hyman, £12.95) Balanced biography of the dictator. *Inscriptions*, by Hugh J. Silverman (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £19.95) Study of Continental philosophy in the muddy terrain between phenomenology and structuralism by US academic. *Judges*, by David Pannick (Oxford, £12.95) That awesome creature, the English judge, cross-examined by clever insider. On Modern Marriage, by Karen Blixen, translated by Anne Born (Fourth Estate, £10.95) Recently discovered essays. The Collins Atlas of World History, edited by Pierre Vidal-Naquat (Collins, £20) Translation of a French history atlas with double-page spreads skimming breathlessly down the millennia with maps, commentary, graphics, and pictures. The Crusades, by Jonathan Riley-Smith (The Athlone Press, £18) Short, scholarly history and description of the phenomenon. The Zealot Intruders, by Naomi Shepherd (Collins, £15) The Western rediscovery of Palestine in the 19th century by explorers, antiquaries, pre-consumers, tourists, and missionaries.

Playing at Marbles

Peter Jones

LAND OF LOST GODS

The Search for Classical Greece

By Richard Stoddart

Hutchinson, £14.95

In 1625 Sir Thomas Roe and William Petty tried to obtain the relics of the Golden Gate at Constantinople for the Earl of Arundel. Deciding that they could not be stolen or procured through favours, Roe offered a 600-crown bribe to a clergyman to declare them sacrilegious: they would be taken down, stored, and then secretly shipped to England. But the city Treasurer declared the relics to be enchanted and refused a removal permit. They are now completely lost.

Shades of Elgin. But it must be made clear that Mr Stoddart's purpose is not to moralize or re-hat old ad nauseam arguments, but to tell the story of the travellers, antiquarians, topographers, and archaeologists who searched for Classical Greece from the 15th to 19th centuries; and it quickly emerges that it was for the most part a search and not a rape.

Up till the Elgin era, travellers motivated by the literature and art came to decipher, record, and sketch. Cyriac of Ancona, for example, "redeeming antiquity from extinction", as Pausanias (1427) said of him, came to decipher manuscripts and inscriptions, and had little interest in sites and monuments. Proto-archaeologists came simply to check up on Pausanias, the Greek geographer. W.M. Leake, identifying virtually all remaining unknown sites between 1805-10, noted that Pausanias mentioned hearing a singing trout in Arcadia and duly listened to it. E.D. Clarke likened the Vale of Tempe to Killarney. Pausanias would have approved.

Mr Stoddart spins a fascinating web of narrative and original quotation. Jacques Spots account of the Parthenon before it was blown up is interesting because he claims one of the pediments contained a sculpture of Hadrian and his wife. The asides too are beguiling — Evelyn claims that Greek pillars make the best garden pillars; the Turks asserted the curative properties of a marble decree of Antiochus Soter and rolled patients up and down it (taking the tablet?).

This book is a must for Hellenophiles, and especially modern Hellenic travellers, who will be informed, stimulated, and amused by it under, one hopes, quite different conditions from those of the first package tourists. In 1833, 90 passengers set off from Naples for Istanbul, among them a music-mad Danish Baron, a singing count from Sicily, a Russian count who read nothing but Homer, an Icelandic clergyman, and a group of Frenchmen who chatted together to bully the captain. There were constant disputes, "but only two duels are as yet decided to be fought when the voyage terminates". Nowadays all that remains to be decided when the voyage terminates is the bar bill — and when to come back.

Little trials of home life

NOVEL of the week

Victoria Glendinning

THE CLOTHES IN THE WARDROBE

By Alice Thomas Ellis

Duckworth, £9.95



Alice the hypnotist

with a golden-skinned youth. Mesmerized by love, she helped him conceal a sex-crime. Now, she believes she is damned to eternity.

Mother keeps her religion "in the same compartment of her mind as her diamond napkins". Alice Thomas Ellis's fantastic young heroine wears her soul on the outside, the way other people wear clothes. Margaret's home life

fits her as badly as "a garment designed for somebody else", like mother's old wedding-dress, in which she must be gift-wrapped for a ceremony that seems to her a vulgar combination of contract and concubinage. "You must never underestimate the power of clothes", says mother's old schoolfriend Lili, who comes to stay for the wedding. "Clothes are the

person." Lili is red-haired, outspoken, subversive. She wears crimson silk. She chain-smokes. She is "free of the shaming curbs of expedient morality". Only she apprehends the horror of this marriage, and saves Margaret for God on the wedding morning by a paradoxically sinful action which would seem far-fetched were one not hypnotized into accepting anything that she, or Alice Thomas Ellis, chooses to propose.

Most novelists who write fictionally about conventional social attitudes with anything approaching Alice Thomas Ellis's inspired malice could not without an embarrassing grinding of gears, write also about the grandeur of God and the fate of the immortal soul. God is as present in this story as any of the other problematic male characters, and more vivid than most.

No woman writer, complains Lili's complaisant husband, can ever properly portray a man. "I know that", says Lili impatiently. "Why should she bother?" Alice Thomas Ellis only bothers with the things that really bother her. That's why her novel is short. That's why her novel is good.

Comic corruptions of high life

Elaine Feinstein

THE HOUSE OF HOSPITALITIES

By Emma Tennant

Viking, £10.95

In this warm and witty novel, Emma Tennant looks at the deadly glamour that has always dominated the English imagination: the excitements and corruptions of privilege. Lovegrove, the house at the centre of this novel, has been repossessed after the Second World War by one of the country's richest and most well-connected families. In the landscape of its own valley, the splendours of Lovegrove contrast sharply with the drabness of London in the Fifties. Through the eyes of a schoolgirl, Jenny, invited for a weekend visit in 1953, we glimpse some of the games being played out by elegant hosts and raffish guests alike.

It is crucial to the plot that the narrator should come from a modest, middle-class background, bewildered by the customs of the people she meets. Unlike Waugh, however, who is unequivocally in love with the society he longs to enter, Miss Tennant uses the innocence of an

outsider to mock an exclusivity too confident of its power to be particularly put out by lechery in the gardens, drunks in the drawing-room, or even the discovery of Lady Lovesome bathing nude in a shallow pool with a guest.

That the narrator should be a child is equally important. It is the device that Miss Tennant has employed before, in *Wild Nights* and *Alice Fell*, to focus on the language as the vision of a child learns to focus on the world. In this elegant novel, which could only have been written by Tennant, we are taken into the very heartland of those who believe that England belongs to them.

Head lets his hair down

Martin Hammond

LETTERS FROM SCHOOL

By John Rae

Collins, £10.95

Headmasters of independent schools are cagey folk on the whole, unwilling to twitch the veil and admit to doubts, uncertainties, mixed motives, or other normal fallibilities. John Rae, now enjoying freedom from the relative constraint of his headmastership of Westminster, does some mild veil-twitching in his new book, which takes the form of a series of 25 letters to parents on a variety of topics which can excite parental anxiety, anger, or absurdity. The parents and the circumstances are presented as imaginary or composite, though every now and then there is a whiff of more specific apologetics and indeed specific plugs for Westminster. Throughout there is the implied but not self-evident assumption that the concerns of Westminster parents are typical and universal.

The book is fluent and very well written: those expecting "Crawfie of the HMC" revelations will be largely disappointed. There is little to shock, alarm, or disconcert — unless you are shocked, for example, by the recognition that even the best schools contain a handful of incompetent or played-out teachers (of

course they do), or that the selection of headmasters can sometimes be a foolishly amateur business. Few headmasters or parents would quarrel with Rae's analysis of the issues he raises, his methods of dealing with them, or his conclusions, except perhaps his hedged-about espousal of the case for 50 per cent representation of parents on the governing body — I can think of few things worse.

The great strength of Rae's book is his splendid, for almost aggressive honesty — about himself (much autobiography), about the motives of headmasters, teachers, par-

ents, and pupils, about the element of chance that can determine the success or failure of an investment in private education. Rae is good on the unreal expectations of some parents, and on the role and limitations (in every sense) of school governors. But he is at his best in the careful, sympathetic, and accurate observation of the psychology of schoolboys and their reactions to the pressures of school, home, and adolescence. Rae's approach to running a school is realistic, pragmatic, opportunistic, and compassionate — not a bad combination for a headmaster. His understanding of the concerns and vagaries of pupils and parents runs deep and true, but he is less generous of sympathy and less convincing in his remarks about teaching staff, and one wonders about the relation that obtained between Rae and his common

room ("I can think of no other walk of life, except perhaps the ordained ministry of the Church of England, in which it is possible for a lazy man to get away with so little for so long.") There are some unjustified slurs on girls' schools in the thin defence of the admission of girls to swell the Westminster sixth form.

John Rae's urge to strip away familiar cant leads to some exaggeration or over-dramatization. Schools are not generally the battlegrounds implied at times by his account: the "face to face" between parents and teachers is not usually "a struggle for supremacy" (a strange idea, this): not all headmasters are "the best con-men in the business". *Huckleberry Finn* supplies the verdict: "There was things which he stretched, but mainly he told the truth."

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BOOKING KEY

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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **ALLO, ALLO:** Return of last year's stage version of the television show. Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street W1 (01-530 5887). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8.10.20pm, Fri and Sat 8.40-11pm, mats Fri and Sat 5.30-7.50pm, £7.50-£14.

★ **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT:** Frank Froy, Wendy Craig and others in Jeffrey Archer courtroom drama. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1181). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats Thurs 5.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **CORPSE:** Colin Baker and Jack Welling in twisty thriller of murder, money and identical twins. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-530 2860). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **DIARY OF A SOMEBODY:** The private life of Joe Orton: funny, clever, painful and rough. Boulevard Theatre, Walker Court, Brewer Street W1 (01-437 2661). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Thurs 5.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **THE HYPOCHONDRIAC:** Tom Courtenay heads strong cast in Molière's classic comedy. Lyric Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Thurs 5.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **MELON:** New Simon Gray play stars Alan Bates as a glittering publisher imploding with sexual jealousy. Haymarket Theatre, Haymarket, SW1 (01-530 8822). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Thurs 5.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **SEPARATION:** David Suchet and Saskia Reeves in another two-hander play by Tom Kempinski, author of *Love for Love*. Haymarket Theatre, Haymarket, SW1 (01-530 8822). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15pm, mats Thurs 5.15pm and Sat 5.15pm, £5-£13.50.

★ **TATTOO THEATRE:** Touching, almost wordless play from Yugoslavia about a violent couple and a magical blue rabbit. Far from

being soppy as it sounds, and a hit at Edinburgh.

Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street N1 (01-226 7432). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat 8.10.30pm, £4-£7.

★ **TEACHERS:** New John Godber 'end of term' play. Funny with sad bits. Hull Truck Company tour in London for one week.

Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street WC2 (01-240 8230). Tube: Leicester Square/Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.15-8.45pm, £5.50-£8.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder: Mayfair Theatre (01-429 3036). • Cate: New London Theatre (01-405 0172, cc 01-404 4079). • Chess: Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). • 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre Royal (01-530 8100).

★ **THE MOUSSEUR:** St Martin's Theatre (01-530 1448). • Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-330 2244). • Run For Your Wife: Criterium Theatre (01-530 5211).

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★ **Canon Oxford Street (01-636 0310).** Progs 1.10, 2.25, 5.50, 8.15. Canon Edgware Road (01-723 5001). Progs 2.50, 5.30, 8.15.

★ **Screen on Baker Street (01-935 2772).** Progs 2.10, 4.15, 6.35, 8.40. Warner West End (01-438 0761). Progs 1.05, 3.35, 6.05, 8.35.

★ **HELRAISER (15):** Full-blooded British horror film, written and directed by Clive Barker from his own novel about a decomposed corpse trying to eat his way back to life (100 min).

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Peter Waymark

Peter Davalle

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Weakness in Curb on knife sales welcomed

law led to measures by Hurd

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A weakness in the law hindering police attempts to check the use of offensive weapons has prompted Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to introduce tough new measures.

Until now, the main control has been exercised under the Prevention of Crime Act 1953, which makes it illegal to have an offensive weapon in a public place without lawful authority or reasonable excuse. The Act's definition of an offensive weapon includes any article "intended" to cause injury.

The difficulty the police have had is in proving intent, for while they may not be satisfied with explanations given by people carrying knives they cannot easily go on to prove intent.

The proposed new law on possession would make it an offence for a person to have in a public place a bladed or sharply pointed instrument without good reason, and it will be up to the person carrying the device to prove good reason.

The Prevention of Crime Act already puts the burden of proof on the individual when the charge is the possession of a weapon that is offensive in itself.

The new offence of possession will be a summary one carrying a maximum fine of £400. The Prevention of Crime Act will remain, with a

maximum penalty of three months and/or £2,000 fine for an offence dealt with summarily, and two years and/or an unlimited fine for an offence on indictment.

The proposed new law will incorporate a general safeguard for tradesmen and people who carry knives as part of a national or religious costume. It is intended that people who carry penknives will not be affected.

Mr Hurd also intends to take powers in the Criminal Justice Bill to make it an offence to manufacture, sell, lend, give or import specified weapons for which there is no legitimate use.

Consideration is being given to what those specified items might be, but they seem certain to include articles such as knuckle-dusters, belt buckle knives and some so-called "martial arts" weapons.

They will in due course, after completion of the passage of the Criminal Justice Bill, be included in an order which will require the approval of Parliament.

The new offence will carry with it a maximum penalty of six months and/or a maximum fine of £2,000.

Mr Hurd also announced that the Government intends to give the Court of Appeal the power to increase sentences referred to it by the Attorney-General for being unduly lenient.

Labour to launch attack on Baker

Continued from page 1

could be exploited to their advantage.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's chief education spokesman, said: "Margaret Thatcher and the Labour Party are agreed on one thing: Kenneth Baker is increasingly seen by the public as devious, shallow and untrustworthy."

"The difference between us is that she will only say so in private; we will say so in public."

Meanwhile, Mr Baker was giving the Tory conference a taste of bitter argument to come, branding the shadow Cabinet "sanctimonious hypocrites" for threatening grammar schools and the private sector when all but two of them had personally taken that route to the top.

He also derided what he saw as Labour's late conversion to the Tory cause of the national curriculum, adding, to the delight of his audience:

"Is this a straw in the wind or is it wind in straw?"

Earlier, he dismissed trenchant criticism from Dr David Melfitt, the chairman of education in Conservative-run Hereford and Worcester, voicing the opposition of many Tory councillors who regard the planned upheaval as insulting their competence.

Dr Melfitt had warned the conference against demolishing the house to get even with the philistines of Brent, Haringey and Ealing.

In Sussex, Mr Straw told the Shadow Cabinet that Mr Baker's plans were a sham.

Mr Straw will argue during the coming parliamentary debates that parental choice can be made a reality only if proper resources are provided on the basis of fair treatment for all schools.

He told his colleagues: "Ken Baker is offering parents a sham choice between one good school they want and five schools which they don't want. That will be the effect of his proposals for opting combined with the cash squeeze on the local education authorities."



Mr Kenneth Carver, owner of Manor Firearms, East Ham, with some of the knives he stocks. (Photograph: Paul Lovelace)

By David Cross

Campaigners for tighter controls on knives and shopkeepers selling them to sportsmen and collectors last night welcomed the Government's decision to outlaw the possession of knives in a public place "without good reason or lawful authority".

Mr Ken Carver, who owns a gunshop which also stocks hundreds of knives in East Ham, east London, said that he thought the proposed new legislation would make little difference to him or his customers. "Knives in themselves

are not dangerous, it's the people who carry them."

He refuses to sell any knives to people under the age of 17.

Mr Bill Demison, who has led a forceful campaign to outlaw lethal knives since his son was stabbed to death just over a year ago, said he was 100 per cent behind what the Home Secretary was doing. But the problem was whether the police would be able to enforce the new law.

"We shall continue to campaign for a total ban on all types of fighting knife,"



A shop assistant, Rosemarie Brown, showing a knife for sale only yards from the Tory conference centre in Blackpool.

Conference sketch

Give the Tories enough rope...

His hand moving covertly in his pocket, his back hunched up and twitching oddly, his trousers drooping in the shadow of his belly, Mr David Storey called for the return of capital punishment to an appreciative fringe meeting of the Monday Club.

"Peaceful, decent, law-abiding people have had more than enough of Chicago-style murder, rape, mugging, burglary, soft sentences and even, on the rooftops, something approaching UNBRIDLED ANARCHY," he declared. "This is not what we expect from a Tory Government."

Chubby-faced young men, their submerged jaws pined forward, their arms wrapping their bodies, their eyes flickering with indignation, roared their approval. "Heart! Heart!"

"What on earth is our country coming to?" asked Mr Storey, announcing a new Monday Club campaign for a referendum on the death penalty.

Outstretching his hand and then twisting it round and round as if practising for the great day when it might be allowed to manipulate that lever, Mr Storey suggested that those MPs who went against the wishes of the people might well find themselves desecrated by their constituents. He then introduced Mr Teddy Taylor, stern and brooding.

Mr Taylor appearing as a moderate in a fringe meeting seems as likely as Mr Cyril Smith appearing as an axehead at a weightwatchers' gala, but in this company he appeared staidly in his restraint, arguing for capital punishment only for those who had been tried and found guilty.

A catalogue of recent atrocities followed: pensioners living in fear and terror, the rising tide of violence, razor-slashing in Glasgow, the Isle of Man having to abolish the birch ("Shame! Shame!"). "Let the people have their say," he pleaded, and the audience stood and roared.

A message of support from a retired police officer had arrived, announced Mr Storey. It came from a Mr Butcher. Now it was time for Questions from the Floor.

Every party seems to provide its fringe meetings with a gentleman in a necktie,

vociferous in his use of the word "indictment". Yesterday's necktied delegate spoke of murderers who were let out and murdered again. This, he said, was an indictment.

Next up was a woman calling for retrospective capital punishment. "What a good idea!" a gentleman near the bar yelled with approval. But Mr Teddy Taylor thought it might be difficult to push through Parliament. A man asked whether Mr Taylor believed in capital punishment for drug purveyors. "I have no doubt it would be an effective deterrent," said Mr Taylor, but he thought it might be difficult to push through Parliament.

Most of the audience looked ready to urge the death penalty for anyone in Government who did not believe in the death penalty. But perhaps Mr Taylor would find it difficult to push through Parliament.

What, asked one delegate, was the most suitable action after Hungerford? The restoration of capital punishment, replied Mr Taylor. At this point Mr Peter Brindley - for it was he - sidled up to a journalist in the audience to complain that he had been prevented from speaking in the main debate in the afternoon. But he was now available for comments.

Was he not worried that the innocent might be executed by mistake? "If one person dies by mistake, well, tough luck, if 300 more are going to be saved." Would he volunteer to be that one person? "Well, I would never be in the dock, would I? I mean, there's always a good reason why they're there, isn't there?"

Back on the platform, Mr Storey read out a message he had just been handed. "Teddy Taylor for Home Secretary A.S.A.P.," it read.

The real Home Secretary was greeted less warmly in the main hall. "I have always opposed restoration," he yelled. "Shame!"

"Socialist! Drop out!" "String 'em up!" yelled Young Conservatives from the back of the hall. The resolution for a parliamentary debate on capital punishment was passed amid signs of much happiness.

Craig Brown

'Zulu Warrior' raids

Continued from page 1

quite a disturbing facet of the psychology of these people. I do not think they have any political convictions. They are just people who like hitting people."

He said the machete seized could cut off someone's head and described the seized 12 knives, including Stanley knives and modelling knives, as lethal.

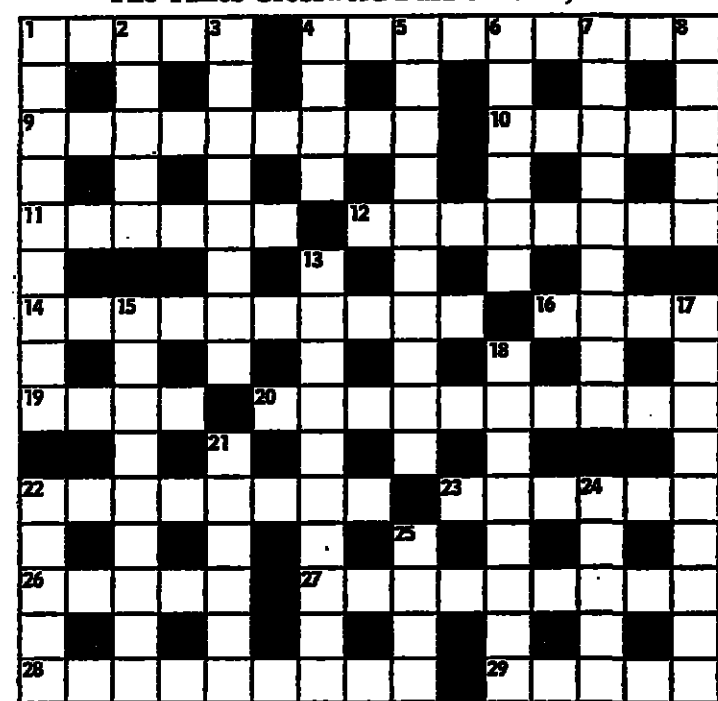
He added: "The possession and use of these weapons is very common in society to-

day. My officers are constantly coming up against people who are prepared to use them. The high incidence of these weapons is frightening."

"Perhaps the law needs to be strengthened to put the onus of lawful possession of these weapons on the people who carry them in the street."

He described the operation as a great success and added: "A number of our officers were able to get very close to these people. It was difficult and dangerous work."

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,482



This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 15 out of the 22 finalists at the 1987 national final of The Times Collins Dictionaries Crossword Championship.

ACROSS

- 1 Philosopher that man turned on (5).
- 4 Score one increased in French game (5-2-2).
- 9 Space around hole for the rest of the players (4,4).
- 10 Old king's daughter moved in East wind (5).
- 11 Mark produced by folding knife sometimes (6).
- 12 Abandon plane? It's not been cancelled (8).
- 14 Engagement accomplished, giving suitor a chance (10).
- 16 Holmes's resident patient, for instance (4).
- 19 Novel mile race's starter (4).
- 20 Plant a couple in the garden (4-3-3).
- 22 Calm restored initially in Ireland, say (8).
- 23 Somebody enlarged new locks (6).
- 26 Play should improve after his pitch inspection (5).
- 27 Like the last Olympic year, by George (9).
- 28 Barbarism appears to excite physicist (9).
- 29 Eccentric as three-quarters of the characters in Fiji (5).

DOWN

- 1 Oxford Street brand is superior (4-5).
- 2 Brent group people considered silly (5).
- 3 Wild venture filmed at a distance (4,4).
- 4 Sound made by bottle or old instrument (4).
- 5 France, for example, for the French (3,2,5).
- 6 To let, inside Italian city (6).
- 7 A painting of Gainsborough, for example (9).
- 8 Material partly sewn in one-piece (5).
- 13 Passed on my request for feathers (4-2-4).
- 15 The state has one article exhibited by Caligula (9).
- 17 Crisis, in general, confined to Eastern quarter (9).
- 18 Not like Lord Jim (8).
- 21 Crew's taken over most of the following places (6).
- 22 Round number removed from school (5).
- 24 What is replacing a tricky contest (5).
- 25 Government holds centre of power in state (4).

Concise crossword, page 14

WEATHER

A dull, wet start over eastern Scotland but the brighter, showery weather already over the rest of the country will soon reach these areas, with the more persistent rain becoming confined to the Northern Isles. By afternoon all Britain will have sunshine and showers, the showers blustery and heavy at times. The wind may touch gale force in exposed parts, making it feel colder and fresher than yesterday in most places - cold enough for the showers to turn wintry on northern hills and perhaps over low ground in the far north. Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Cold, with showers or longer outbreaks of rain in most places.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; h, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

	C	F	M	F
Algeria	12	23	7	46
Alexandria	15	27	8	46
Athens	12	23	7	46
Bombay	28	82	1	34
Buenos Aires	12	54	1	34
Calcutta	28	82	1	34
Cairo	28	82	1	34
Colon	28	82	1	34
Hong Kong	28	82	1	34
London	12	54	1	34
Lyons	12	54	1	34
Madrid	12	54	1	34
Moscow	12	54	1	34
New York	12	54	1	34
Paris	12	54	1	34
Rome	12	54	1	34
San Francisco	12	54	1	34
Seoul	12	54	1	34
Singapore	28	82	1	34
Tokyo	12	54	1	34
Washington	12	54	1	34
Zurich	12	54	1	34

denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Max	C	F
London	12	54	1	34	46
Edinburgh	12	54	1	34	46
Birmingham	12	54	1	34	46
Manchester	12	54	1	34	46
Cardiff	12	54	1	34	46
Belfast	12	54	1	34	46
Sheffield	12	54	1	34	46
Nottingham	12	54	1	34	46
Leeds	12	54	1	34	46
Bradford	12	54	1	34	46
Coventry	12	54	1	34	46
Derby	12	54	1	34	46
Liverpool	12	54	1	34	46
Southampton	12	54	1	34	46
Exeter	12	54	1	34	46
Gloucester	12	54	1	34	46
Reading	12	54	1	34	46
Worcester	12	54	1	34	46
York	12	54	1	34	46

denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2:15	7.5	2:27	7.4
Aberdeen	2:18	4.8	2:54	4.3
Avonmouth	2:44	13.8	3:01	14.0
Belfast	2:22	12.5	2:39	12.5
Cardiff	2:29	12.7	2:46	12.8
Deepport	2:26	5.8	2:42	5.8
Dover	2:29	6.8	2:46	6.8
Falmouth	2:29	6.8	2:46	6.8
Glasgow	2:07	4.5	2:23	4.6
Harwich	1:08	4.1	1:18	4.1
Holyhead	1:10	5.7	1:24	6.0
Hull	2:25	8.0	2:40	7.5
Leith	2:22	9.4	2:42	9.7
Liverpool	2:27	6.4	2:43	6.7
London	2:15	10.0	2:28	9.5
Lowestoft	2:27	11.2	2:41	11.2
Malindi	2:27	11.2	2:41	11.2
Medford Haven	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Newquay	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Oban	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Poole	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Portsmouth	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Swansea	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Torquay	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Wexford	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Widemouth	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Woolwich	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Wynford	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5
Yarmouth	2:27	7.5	2:41	7.5

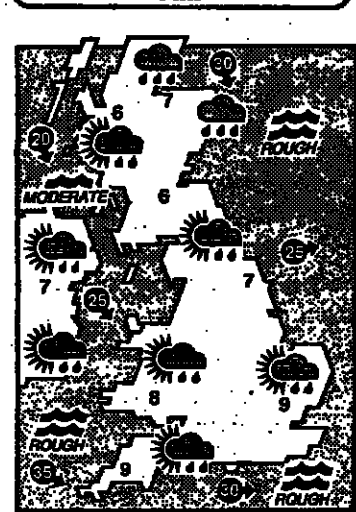
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THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.25	2.25
Belgium	21.85	20.75
Canada	2.25	2.25
Denmark	11.94	11.94
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	3.11	3.11
Italy	1.36	1.36
Japan	167.00	167.00
Netherlands	3.48	3.48
Portugal	200.48	200.48
Spain	166.64	166.64
Sweden	10.36	10.36
Switzerland	2.25	2.25
USA	1.53	1.53
Yugoslavia	17.70	17.70

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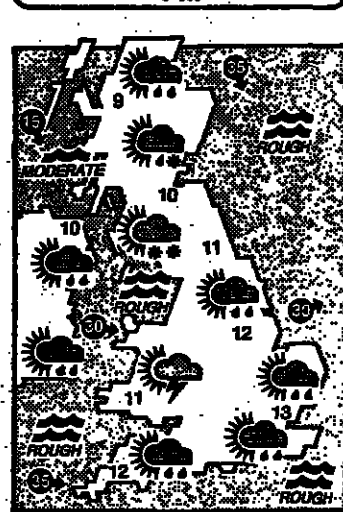
AM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 6:54 pm to 6:43 am
Bristol 7:04 pm to 6:53 am
Edinburgh 7:02 pm to 6:51 am
Manchester 7:00 pm to 6:49 am
Penzance 7:17 pm to 7:04 am

PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 16C (61F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 65%. Wind: 10 mph to 15 mph. Rain: 0.05 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, all day, mean sea level, 6 pm, 163.1 meters, 536 ft.

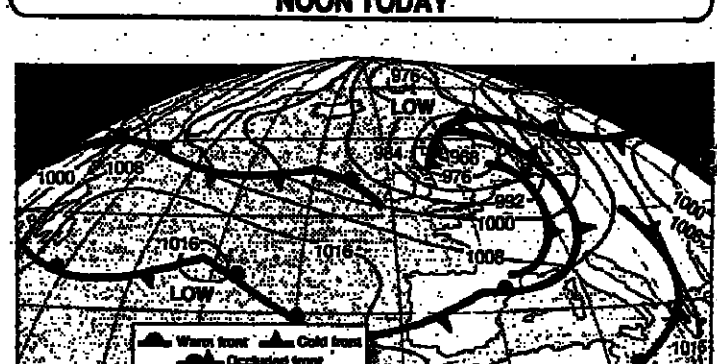
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 16.1C (61F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5.1C (41F). Humidity: 65%. Wind: 10 mph to 15 mph. Rain: 0.05 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, all day, mean sea level, 6 pm, 163.1 meters, 536 ft.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Today: highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, N. Scotland, 5C (41F). Highest rainfall: Westmorland, 1.0 in. Lowest rainfall: Wexford, 0.0 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, all day, mean sea level, 6 pm, 163.1 meters, 536 ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

سكيا من الامل

BUSINESS SUMMARY

ISA plans full listing after £2.2m placing

ISA International, which distributes items for office machines, ranging from telex rolls to magnetic tapes, is expected to be quoted on the Stock Exchange from October 15 after a placing of 6.67 million shares at 80p each.

ISA is capitalized at £15.6 million at the placing price and comes to market on a prospective basis of £1.3 million. The placing raises £2.2 million net. After repayment of bank borrowings, ISA will have £1.2 million earmarked for acquisitions.

TSW ahead to £2.5m

TSW-Television South West is the latest television company to benefit from buoyant conditions in its market. It reported pretax profits for the year to July 31 up from £1.9 million to £2.5 million on a turnover of £24.4 million, compared with £28.4 million previously.

The final dividend rises from 1.41p to 1.87p a share, making 2.7p (2.05p) for the year. TSW says it is optimistic about the prospects for Astra, the Luxembourg-based project which plans to launch a satellite next year with the capacity to transmit 16 channels to 119 million homes. The television company is considering an investment of £500,000 in the project's parent company.

Beckman up to £1.66m Profits rise at Maunders

A Beckman, which has interests in property and textiles, lifted pretax profits from £1.44 million to £1.66 million in the year to June on turnover of £14.89 million. The final dividend remains at 3.78p making an unchanged 5.73p in all. The company said the value of its investment property portfolio was £5.575 million.

Thames TV in \$4.5m deal

Thames Television has clinched a \$4.5 million (£2.7 million) deal with CBS, the US TV network, to make a mini-series about Jack the Ripper to be shown next autumn. Mr Richard Dunn (right), Thames's managing director, said that with government pressure aimed at making British television more competitive, the deal came at an important time.

PWR work for Rolls

Rolls-Royce and Associates, based at Derby, has won a safety inspection contract worth between £5 million and £10 million - from the Central Electricity Generating Board for the new Sizewell B pressurized water reactor in Suffolk. The initial contract will run until 1993, when the reactor comes on-line.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the company said: "The high-technology inspections will ensure that the reactor vessel remains free from flaws or cracks that could affect its safety. Ultrasonic, eddy current, magnetic particle and other non-destructive testing techniques will be combined to run regular checks on the reactor vessel, closure head, studs and nuts." The contract also includes the training of inspection staff.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Dec 87	89.71	89.72	89.65	89.71	320
Mar 88	89.71	89.74	89.67	89.71	85
Jun 88	89.68	89.66	89.62	89.65	11
Dec 88	NT	NT	NT	89.54	0
Mar 89	NT	NT	NT	89.45	0
Jun 89	NT	NT	NT	89.35	0
Previous day's total open interest 17320					
Three Month Eurodollar	91.22	91.30	91.15	91.27	13749
Dec 87	90.87	90.95	90.79	90.93	2575
Mar 88	90.82	90.84	90.78	90.83	948
Jun 88	90.43	90.46	90.36	90.40	245
Dec 88	90.22	90.22	90.21	90.21	21
Mar 89	NT	NT	NT	90.08	0
Jun 89	NT	NT	NT	89.98	0
Previous day's total open interest 30894					
US Treasury Bond	81.12	82.11	81.12	82.06	8526
Dec 87	NT	NT	NT	81.10	0
Mar 88	NT	NT	NT	81.10	0
Previous day's total open interest 6259					
Long Gilt	114.08	114.22	114.01	114.20	24489
Dec 87	NT	NT	NT	114.20	0
Mar 88	NT	NT	NT	114.20	0
Previous day's total open interest 26806					
FT-SE 100	238.60	240.80	238.60	240.80	2826
Dec 87	NT	NT	NT	245.10	0
Mar 88	NT	NT	NT	245.10	0
Previous day's total open interest 8493					
Japanese Government Bond	96.25	96.55	96.15	96.58	0
Dec 87	NT	NT	NT	96.15	0
Mar 88	NT	NT	NT	96.15	0
Previous day's total open interest 505					

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Dealings	For Settlement
October 8	October 8	January 7	January 18
Call options were taken out on: 7/10/87 Poly Pack, Knobs & Hound, Oliver Res., Common Bros., Ann Energy, Control Secs., Farnham Motors, Greenwich Res., Costain, Horman 'B', Black Leisure, Oliver Propz., Holmes Protection, Storehouse, Waco, 2P, TIF, Goode Durrant Murray, Singer & Friedlander, Pota & Celler, Poly Pack, Abaco.			

Special Weekend Price 25p

Fidelity Eastern Opportunities Trust
Special announcement to Professional Advisers

Due to demand dealing facility for Brokers only open all weekend.

0800 414181

Such is the demand for Fidelity's new Eastern Opportunities Trust, our special dealing line for professional advisers only will remain open all this weekend for telephone deals, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Although the fixed price offer closes this Friday 9th October, you will be able to buy units for your clients at a special price of 25 pence on Saturday and Sunday.



STOCK MARKET

Ferranti shares edge near year's high on bid talk

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Speculation was growing yesterday that Ferranti, which recently made an agreed £540 million offer for International Signal and Control, the American group, may soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid.

Ferranti shares were nudging last night towards their year's high of 152p with a rise of 8p to 148p, adding more than £35 million to the group's stock market value of £638.4 million, as almost 6 million shares changed hands.

Dealers named STC as a potential suitor, although there are no indications from the STC camp that it is prepared to make such a move. British Aerospace has also had its name linked with Ferranti. There has been heavy buying of Ferranti shares by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, with its rival, Hoare Govett.

The electronics sector has been the focus of attention on the stock market in recent weeks after several big deals. Last week, Plessey and GEC announced they were merging their telecommunications businesses and on Tuesday Northern Telecom of Canada, the world's fourth largest telecommunications group, announced that it had paid more than £450 million for ITT's remaining 27.8 per cent stake in STC.

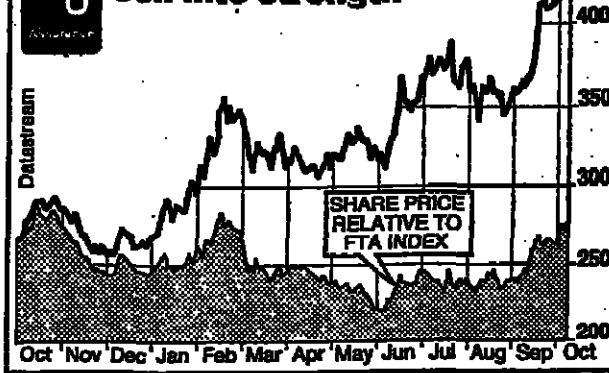
The market had warmly received the news of Ferranti's proposed takeover of ISC, which will create a £1 billion electronics company and enable it to become more competitive in world markets. But the Ferranti board has denied reports that Mr Basil de Ferranti, the chairman, was not happy with the deal. STC finished 9p dearer at 316p while BAe firmed 6p to 546p.

The rest of the equity market put up a resilient performance in the wake of the record, 91-point tumble overnight on Wall Street. Dealers in London reported little selling pressure with prices closing above their worst levels despite the news of the half-point rise in US prime rates to 9 1/4 per cent.

Most of the big fund managers appeared content to wait on the sidelines, hoping for a cheerful speech from the Chancellor at the Conservative Party conference today.

The FT index of 30 shares closed 4.8 lower at 1,853.5, having been 14.6 down at one

COMMERCIAL UNION: sell into strength



stage. The FT-SE 100 retreated by 8.1 to 2,359.8.

Government securities recovered from a hesitant start and continued to grow in confidence as the day wore on. Earlier falls of 1/4% at the longer end were replaced with similar-sized gains.

Trafalgar House put in a

British Airways took off yesterday, closing 8p higher at 224p, as more than 10 million shares changed hands. County NatWest, the broker, rates the shares as a strong "buy" after a brief review of the international airline industry. The potential for profits of airlines during the next five years is considerable, helped by growing traffic and weaker oil prices.

late rise, wiping out an earlier 3p fall, to close 1p dearer at 419p. County NatWest, the broker, is expected to publish a bullish circular later today, claiming that the shares are cheap.

Dee Corporation shrugged off recent dullness as the price advanced by 12p to 219p on a turnover of 10 million shares. The market is hoping that Mr Garry Weston's Associated

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Once again, there have been whispers that a full bid may be on the way.

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Standard shelves US sale as bids fail to meet price

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Standard Chartered, the London-based international banking group, has put on ice its plans to sell off Union Bankcorp, its US banking subsidiary, because it has been unable to find a buyer willing to pay a high enough price.

Sources close to Standard said yesterday that the bank's negotiating team, which had been to California last month, had returned to London.

The negotiations the team was conducting with institutions interested in buying Union Bankcorp have been broken off for the time being and sources suggested that no new talks were in progress at present.

Standard is believed to have

Standard's hard-pressed low capital ratios to some of the best in the clearing bank sector.

The bank's capital position was hit by a £400 million provision made in its interim results last August against loans to Third World countries.

Earlier that month, Standard raised £155 million from the sale of Stanbic, its South African subsidiary, and subsequently announced that it intended to raise at least a further £300 million through asset disposals.

City analysts believe the sale of a few large assets, leaving Standard rich in cash,

would raise the group's stock market rating.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England inquiry into Standard's activities during the bid by Lloyds Bank last year has been completed and the investigators are expected to hand in their report to the Bank's supervision department in November or December.

While the investigators were given the option of making interim reports to the Bank if they found anything needing urgent attention, they have not done so. Standard itself requested the investigation after allegations that it had illegally induced investors to buy its shares.

Bunzl in £39m new US buy

By Alison Eadie

Bunzl, the fast-growing paper distribution and plastics group, is making yet another acquisition in the United States — this time, in the new area of electrical components distribution.

The \$64 million (£39 million) cash purchase of EESCO, the sixth largest independent electrical distributor in the US, is Bunzl's first move in a sector where it hopes to achieve nationwide coverage. Bunzl already has a national American paper distribution business, and building materials distribution covering mainly the Midwest. Further building materials acquisitions are expected shortly.

The three distribution businesses in the US, which will have annual sales of more than \$1.1 billion, will be run with separate management structures.

EESCO, which distributes electrical components, wire and cable, lighting design systems and sophisticated control equipment, has its headquarters in Chicago. It has 32 branch outlets in six Midwestern and three southern states. In the year to the end of February 1986, it expects to achieve sales of more than \$200 million and pretax profits of \$8 million. Net assets are warranted to be \$32 million.

The American wholesale electrical distribution market has sales of more than \$35 billion a year, through more than 6,000 distributors. Bunzl said the market has been growing at a compound average rate of 5 per cent a year for the past 10 years.

The \$64 million purchase will wipe out Bunzl's £10 million in the bank and lead to modest borrowing.

Bunzl has made 14 purchases this year, worth a total of about £120 million. It aims to keep its split of profits at 40 per cent in the US, 40 per cent in Britain and 20 per cent throughout the rest of the world.

Sears post

Sears, the stores and footwear group, has appointed Miss Dena O'Carroll, already a director of Tesco, as a non-executive director. Sears announced on Tuesday that Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, was to be a non-executive director.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

London waives the rules for Sotheby's

The listing of Sotheby's stock in London and New York simultaneously appears to involve a selective departure from British practice. First, Sotheby's has a voting structure that is a throw-back to the old days, long before institutional investors demanded one share, one vote. White knight Alfred Taubman, who bought the company in 1983, and his associates will emerge with 96 per cent of the voting power.

Those who take part in the placing, the collective owners of 29 per cent of Sotheby's equity, will have just 4 per cent of the votes. The A shares do, in fact, have one vote per share, but the B shares retained by Mr Taubman have 10 votes. The A shareholders may elect no more than 25 per cent of the board members under the rules of the American Stock Exchange. Mr Taubman will elect the rest.

Second, Stock Exchange rules normally permit placings of no more than £15 million without a full public offering. Salomon Brothers and Lazards have been permitted to offer stock which may be valued at £24 million or so.

On closer examination, the exercise appears to be a neat example of "hands across the sea" co-operation between regulatory authorities which operate under widely different rules. So far such arrangements have mostly involved the US securities industry accommodating British practices.

Had the Stock Exchange demanded that the Sotheby's placing be done as if by a British company rather than one registered in the US, it would not have been done at all. There are a number of companies, the best known being Great Universal Stores and the Savoy Hotel, which have restricted voting rights attaching to part of their equity. But these are today regarded as accidents of history. Investor acceptance would not be forthcoming if they were floated today.

Mr Taubman has pledged to keep the company free from the threat of takeover and to provide stability of ownership. And under the US system, so long as there is full disclosure of the voting structure when shares are issued, the decision to accept or reject such offerings is left to the verdict of the market.

The Stock Exchange has allowed the normal placing limit to be breached for a number of reasons. First, it would not have been possible to incorporate an offer for sale in Britain into the structure of a placing made principally in the US. As a quid pro quo, the Exchange has required that the shares placed in London have to be spread among a much larger number of places than would normally be the case.

The Exchange also accepted that a stock such as Sotheby's would attract considerable interest among British and

other European investors and that the importance of a London listing merited special consideration. Overall, a sensible and flexible response which should encourage other US companies to make the trip to Throgmorton Street.

City poker players

The fate of Guinness Peat is decided, the departed chairman, Alastair Morton, leaving the company to the New Zealand Equicorp and a revitalized Lord Kissen. Yesterday, another New Zealand company, Brierley Investments, bowed profitably out of Equity & Law.

The common thread running through these and similar City stories is the destabilizing effect of large shareholders who suddenly appear above the parapet to the dismay of the sitting directors. Do they wish simply to put pressure on the board to perform better? Do they believe that the shares are undervalued and, therefore, a good investment? Are they simply looking for the profit that would come if, having put the company "in play," a bidder comes in with a knock-out price?

This is the securities market at work: at its most constructive, forcing where sloth, inefficiency or complacency have ruled; at its most criticized, when it seems to channel vast profits to speculators and wheeler-dealers.

Ron Brierley may not be too disappointed by his failure to acquire Equity & Law. He cannot fail to be delighted with extracting a better, indeed handsome, price for his 29.6 per cent holding in the company. Where will he apply his fresh millions next?

The preference of the Equity & Law board, under the chairmanship of a distinguished former Treasury permanent secretary, Sir Douglas Wass, for the French connection is understandable. The French alliance may guarantee the sort of quiet existence that gave Mr Brierley his chance to buy Equity & Law shares fairly cheaply in the first place. But if British insurance companies cannot lead in Europe, only follow, they are not as good, as imaginative or as brave as they would like us to believe.

The Government for its part might have shown some interest in the sale of Equity & Law on the grounds of reciprocity, the gate is now open and we may well see once-proud proprietary life companies and some composites going the same way.

Mr Basil de Ferranti

In commenting yesterday on the proposed merger between Ferranti and International Signal & Control, I said that the former's chairman, Mr Basil de Ferranti, was "evidently opposed" to the merger. I naturally accept his word that he does, on the contrary, wholeheartedly support the merger, having recommended it to shareholders on October 2.

Opec pair act to hold pact

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the two dominant members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, moved swiftly yesterday to restore world confidence in the cartel's ability to maintain its price and production agreement.

Kuwait issued a statement saying it would adhere to the agreement and King Fahd, the Saudi ruler, used the country's official news agency to state that Saudi Arabia would stand by its Opec commitments.

Speculation in the US that Saudi Arabia was about to adopt a new pricing formula knocked 60 cents off the price of West Texas Intermediate crude to nearer \$19 a barrel. North Sea Brent followed downwards from \$18.95 to \$18.35 but recovered.

Mr Rikman Lukman, Opec president and Nigerian oil minister, Dr Subroto, the Indonesian oil minister, and Senator Arturo Grisanti, the Venezuelan oil minister, are visiting Gulf oil states to seek assurances that the Opec agreement will be followed.

The cartel will meet on December 9 to review its pricing formula and then hopes to move its market price up from \$18 to \$20. It is, however, still aware of over-supply in the world oil market, partially caused by Gulf producers, expecting further military activity, stepping up output during September.

Opec production is back within its self-imposed ceiling, with 18.5 million barrels a day being produced during September and Kuwait trimming output to 1.2 million barrels a day.

Baynes takes over TCI

By Cliff Feltham

The South African entrepreneur Dr Bruce McInnes is launching his newly found shell company, Charles Baynes, on the takeover trail with an agreed £34 million offer for Technical Components Industries, the engineering group of TCI, and other shareholders speaking for 31 per cent of the company, have agreed to accept.

Mr Sykes, who is also chairman of Thermal Scientific and deputy chairman of Harris Queensway, said: "I am selling out because I have a lot on my plate elsewhere and do not have the time to develop the company the way it deserves. I am glad it is passing into good hands."

Mr Sykes is to join the board of Charles Baynes as a non-executive deputy chairman and Mr Bill Speirs, the managing director of TCI, will become an executive director.

Charles Baynes is swapping 65 of its shares for 14 in TCI, valuing them at 590p. There is a partial cash alternative worth £20p. On the stock market, TCI shares shot up 111p to 587p.

When Dr McInnes, aged 39, moved into Charles Baynes this year he found three "dog-eared" businesses, a laundry in north London, a stone-cleaning company best known for scrubbing dirt off the House of Commons, and a hacksaw blade manufacturer.

After polishing up the balance sheet, the company made a half-time loss of nearly £900,000, but wiped out borrowings in preparation for acquisitions.

Dr McInnes said: "When I moved into Charles Baynes I decided that we needed to make a sizeable acquisition, and preferably one in the



Joining forces: Hugh Sykes (left) and Bruce McInnes

industrial area. It also had to be an agreed one because we did not want to get involved in a hostile bid."

TCI has four solid engineering businesses, involved in the manufacture, design and distribution of specialist fasteners and components for the aerospace and racing car industries. It turned in interim profits of £325,000, an 88 per cent improvement.

"The TCI businesses all have strong cash flow and offer plenty of scope for organic expansion," Dr McInnes said. "I think we will also be looking closely at acquiring some large private companies."

But one of the first tasks is likely to be disposals at the existing Charles Baynes business — and high on the list is the laundry company.

Johnston share price slumps on figures

By Lawrence Lever

Shares in Johnston Group, the civil engineer, plummeted by more than £1 yesterday as the company announced disappointing half-year results for the period to June 30.

Although turnover increased from £32 million to £38 million, profits before tax were £1.7 million, only marginally better than last year's £1.6 million.

Earnings per share were 15.42p (14.8p), and the company is maintaining its interim dividend at 3p.

The news sent Johnston's share price tumbling from 645p to 540p.

The company says that it expects an improved performance in the second half.

It blamed the disappointing profits for the first six months on a production overlap between the introduction of its 600 series sweeper machine and the completion of orders on the old 400 series sweeper.

Stickers determined to wear the traditional pin-striped City uniform could soon be walking around with holes in their shoes. The ongoing supply boom has meant that establishment shoe-maker Church's has a record 10-week wait for repairs at its Threadneedle Street branch.

Guru gaffe Robert Prechter, the American investment guru whose doom and gloom message on his investment hotline triggered Tuesday's historic 91-point plunge on Wall Street, was denying yesterday that his taped message had included a "sell" instruction. As Wall Street brokers who lost millions of dollars began baying for his blood, Prechter was, later in the day, refusing to answer his phone. He apparently bases his investment advice on the theories of one, RN Elliott, an accountant who

Bell Resources plans Aus\$1bn fund raising

By Colin Campbell

Bell Resources, in which Mr Robert Holmes a Court's main company, Bell Group, owns a 42 per cent stake, is raising Aus\$1 billion (£440 million) through the issue of three tranches of convertible Eurobonds.

Bell Resources, which holds 28 per cent of BHP and into which the bonds are convertible, plans to raise the funds as US\$575 million, Aus\$150 million and £50 million.

The fund raising confirms speculation that the Holmes a Court camp was again marshalling a money chest.

Mr Holmes a Court, through various companies, is a significant shareholder in Standard Chartered and owns 5 per cent of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, through Dewey Warren.

The Aus\$1 billion Euro-bond deals feature a cash alternative and the maturity date for all three issues is November 4 1997.

lost a fortune in the 1929 Wall Street crash. Prechter, who dislikes working in Wall Street itself, masterminded his thriving business from Gainesville, Georgia. It is indeed a long way from Wall Street but one trader quipped: "It's not far enough."

James Capel, the broker, is strengthening its already top-notch agency and communications research team, led by analysts Neil Blackley and Richard Dale, with the recruitment of Matthew Capp, aged 29, hitherto in charge of smaller-company research at BZW's Wedd division. Capel will be joining Capel next month.



"Before we know where we are, Comrade Gorbachev will be applying for BP shares"

Get tough or get out

Following my revelation yesterday that Wall Street investment banks have been drug-testing their executives, I hear that a series of full-page advertisements has been appearing in leading US news papers in the past few days, emphasizing the seriousness of the drug-addiction problem facing the financial community there. Under the headline "Help an addict — threaten to fire him," the advertisement, placed by Partnership for a Drug-Free America, is targeted at senior managers, directors and partners of firms. The advertisement tells them they now have their own helpline, and calls on them to "get tough" with addicted colleagues. "One of the few shreds of hope for an addict," it says, "is that a boss will get tough. If you want to help an addict in your company, do not be soft about it — put the proposition in clear terms: get well or get out." Any ostriches who think there is no such problem in the Square Mile should call into a certain watering hole in the City on a Friday night and watch the noses of those bright young market men in action.

Carol Leonard

Clubbing together for Item

The Item Club — an anagram for the Independent Treasury Economic Model — ditched by founder sponsor BP three months ago, has, I hear, been saved. BP, which had sponsored Item through its computer consultancy subsidiary, Scicon, since its formation 10 years ago, withdrew its support when its representative in the club, Rob Marshall, who was the full-time club secretary, left Scicon to work in Italy. After long-winded negotiations with a number of potential replacement sponsors, economists Marc Hendriks, of Baring, and Mark Cliffe, of Nomura — whose firms are among Item's dozen or so City and industrial members — tell me that a deal ensuring the future of the club should be signed and sealed within the next couple of weeks or so. Accountancy firm Ernst & Whinney has come up trumps with a sponsorship offer of £50,000 for the first year while Neddly has offered the group an office for both its computer equipment and monthly meetings in Millbank, and Oxford Economic Forecasting has offered to provide technical support. "I'm quite excited by these new tie-ups — they could all have interesting spin-offs," says Cliffe. But Item, which has access to the Treasury's own economic model and produces quarterly forecasts for the British and world economies, still needs a full-time economist to act as secretary. All applicants...

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The premium ticket

The brightest of the City's bright young things, who followed the advice in this column six weeks ago and invested heavily in £22 tickets for the Big Bang Ball II have seen a handsome return. With the ball at the Cafe Royal tomorrow night, and with cheques returned to 2,800 of the 5,500 applicants, disappointed would-be revellers have been prepared this week to pay up to £100 each — representing a 450 per cent premium. Professional ball organizer Oliver Baxter — also the man behind the annual Valentine and Funfair balls at the Royal Albert Hall and Armory House respectively — says most of the tickets were bought by City workers. "They are used to thinking in large sums of money and the £22 we charged is not very much to them," he says. It is, however, more than half the current weekly old-age pension for a single person.

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ONCE YOU KNOW WHERE TO START. When reading Chinese that means starting in the top right, and in the case of International Direct Mail it means starting with Royal Mail. We'll help you talk to your overseas clients simply, economically and effectively — in their own language. We offer a free information pack and a new reference book "International Mailing Lists: How to use them, where to find them" which is crammed with all those facts you need to know — from how to brief the list broker, to details of the international legislation relating to Direct Mail. International Direct Mail can be targeted precisely, which makes it more cost-effective than any other medium. In addition, Royal Mail have some great introductory offers to get you started and an International Business Reply Service within Europe to speed up and increase response.

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NAME POSITION

COMPANY

TYPE OF BUSINESS

ADDRESS

POSTCODE TEL

Royal Mail

BY AIR, BY LAND, BY 直接郵售 BY HAND

ne's timin
just right

RAINE
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Higgs and
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THE TIMES THURSDAY OCTOBER 8 1987

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

29

Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your right share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Cash in P
1	Warrington	Buildings/Roads	
2	Eden	Buildings/Roads	
3	Amco	Buildings/Roads	
4	Br Drapings	Buildings/Roads	
5	Avon Rubber	Buildings/Roads	
6	Br Aeromats (as)	Buildings/Roads	
7	Lon & Edin Ltd	Property	
8	Brown Shipley	Buildings/Roads	
9	Bellough	Buildings/Roads	
10	Uthmaniyah (as)	Oil & Gas	
11	Church	Drugs/Stores	
12	RMC GP (as)	Buildings/Roads	
13	MBS	Buildings/Roads	
14	Park Foods	Food	
15	Stanley (AG)	Drugs/Stores	
16	Evered	Buildings/Roads	
17	Pease	Buildings/Roads	
18	Bridon	Buildings/Roads	
19	Jardine Math	Buildings/Roads	
20	Micro Foods	Food	
21	McIntyre	Property	
22	McIntyre	Property	
23	McIntyre	Property	
24	Conna Ross	Chemicals/Plas	
25	Beckman (A)	Textiles	
26	DFCE	Buildings/Roads	
27	Southend Stadium	Property	
28	Asp (as)	Buildings/Roads	
29	Electromechanics	Buildings/Roads	
30	Claydon	Buildings/Roads	
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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

UNDATED

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Losses minimal

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began September 28. Dealings end October 9. Contango day October 12. Settlement day October 19.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 29)

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6	Br Aeromats (as)	Buildings/Roads	
7	Lon & Edin Ltd	Property	
8	Brown Shipley	Buildings/Roads	
9	Bellough	Buildings/Roads	
10	Uthmaniyah (as)	Oil & Gas	
11	Church	Drugs/Stores	
12	RMC GP (as)	Buildings/Roads	
13	MBS	Buildings/Roads	
14	Park Foods	Food	
15	Stanley (AG)	Drugs/Stores	
16	Evered	Buildings/Roads	
17	Pease	Buildings/Roads	
18	Bridon	Buildings/Roads	
19	Jardine Math	Buildings/Roads	
20	Micro Foods	Food	
21	McIntyre	Property	
22	McIntyre	Property	
23	McIntyre	Property	
24	Conna Ross	Chemicals/Plas	
25	Beckman (A)	Textiles	
26	DFCE	Buildings/Roads	
27	Southend Stadium	Property	
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BREWERIES

No.	Company	Group	Cash in P
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2	Eden	Buildings/Roads	
3	Amco	Buildings/Roads	
4	Br Drapings	Buildings/Roads	
5	Avon Rubber	Buildings/Roads	
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BUILDINGS AND ROADS

No.	Company	Group	Cash in P
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4	Br Drapings	Buildings/Roads	
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ELECTRICALS

No.	Company	Group	Cash in P
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4	Br Drapings	Buildings/Roads	
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FINANCE AND LAND

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صلى الله عليه وسلم

THE TIMES

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

October 8, 1987

If you are a woman and you want to get on, don't learn to type or at least don't admit that you can. This is perhaps a cynical point of view but it is one held by many secretaries who have reached a cul-de-sac in their career. To be a secretary seems to carry a social stigma; so often the word is prefixed by "just a" and those doing the job invariably prefer to call themselves something else, personal assistant being the most popular example.

To understand the decline in status of the secretary from a time when it was a prestigious and exclusively male preserve, it is necessary to examine some current stereotypes.

At one extreme, there is the career secretary, a spinsterish money-penny figure who is tied to a typewriter and lives life vicariously through her boss at the other is the bird-brained blonde whose span of concentration is only as long as it takes her nail varnish to dry.

Now contrast these images with that of the modern career woman as she is commonly perceived by the media. Independent and invincible, she is certainly not a passive subordinate and is typically portrayed striding purposefully into the boardroom regaled in shoulder pads and clutching a brief case — undoubtedly this mythical figure is the creation of women's magazines and certain American soap operas and has about as much basis in reality as the two

descriptions preceding it.

However, it is smaller wonder that women and indeed society in general have such a negative view of the secretary.

In days gone by you became a secretary as something to do until you got married and usually because you couldn't do anything else. Now, the majority of women continue to work after they marry and there are an increasing number of single women who are self-supporting.

They face the dilemma of being trapped in a job which has no formal structure or career path and few prospects for advancement; it is possible to reach the top of the secretarial tree relatively quickly, but once it is reached there are few opportunities to progress further.

Secretarial work is not necessarily intrinsically boring and not all secretaries want to move out of the profession — indeed, there are many women who find this kind of role challenging and fulfilling.

However, the blanket term "secretary" covers a very broad spectrum of jobs. For example, a highly experienced assistant to the chief executive of a multinational company is put into the same category as a school-leaver aged 16 with basic typing skills; they are both called secretaries but in terms of experience and responsibilities they are poles apart.

Part of the problem lies in the lack of recognition. Because the

Corinna Christophorou argues for the women's career that seems to carry a social stigma

Secretaries now need to acquire a sense of direction



Corinna Christophorou is manager of the secretarial consultancy of Seer Selection, which specializes in senior appointments for secretaries, mainly at director or chief executive level

role of the secretary is inextricably tied to that of her employer, it can be increased in scope only if he (and it is still more likely to be he than she) is willing to delegate. This is always an arbitrary matter and at best she can only hope for a few crumbs of responsibility to fall from the executive table. Even then she must feel grateful for any chance to use her intellect and must be content with merely reflected glory.

Could it be that the barrier so carefully maintained in the traditional boss-secretary relationship is merely there to reinforce the mystique of management? After all, it's not inconceivable that in some cases a secretary might prove to be a better manager than her employer.

Despite growing office automa-

tization, the demand for secretaries is now higher than ever as the mushrooming of secretarial recruitment consultants advertising in the national Press will witness.

Interestingly, few of their advertisements state the word secretary without an accompanying euphemism such as PA or executive assistant. Some actually manage to avoid using the word altogether and ask for skills of "100/60" instead.

Because they are closer to the market, professional recruiters know that the word secretary will put off potential candidates as it has connotations of being a low-status, dead-end job.

So great is this problem that companies are having great difficulty in filling secretarial vacancies. Salaries in London are

now quite competitive but it seems that the money alone is no longer enough to attract good candidates. For many secretaries career prospects are highest on their list of priorities and dissatisfaction is widespread; this is because as a valuable resource, secretaries are frequently under-utilized.

The irony is that while employers may seek A-level or graduate secretaries they are rarely prepared to give them any more than the most basic of responsibilities; one must assume that well educated secretaries are in demand merely for status rather than for practical purposes.

It is perhaps telling that this is one of the few legitimate professions where youthfulness and

physical appearance play such a large part in selection.

Frequently in larger firms there is a complete dichotomy between so-called "professional" and "support" staff. The latter category are often neglected or given little consideration.

In many companies staff turnover is alarmingly high, which leads to heavy recruitment expenditure to replace the secretaries who leave. Yet by using their secretarial resources more imaginatively through investing in training and regular appraisals, the benefits could soon become apparent: recruitment costs would fall and higher productivity would result.

Contrary to popular belief, secretaries have much more to offer than shorthand and typing. They should be encouraged to

develop new skills and broaden their responsibilities. Some traditional areas where this has been possible are personnel, administration and marketing, but promotion is rare and comes about more often by accident than design. Even those who are content in a support role should be given regular performance appraisals so that their contribution could at least be acknowledged.

Many managers view their secretaries as an extension of a word-processor and in some organizations this dismissive attitude is even cultivated. It is not surprising that apathy and dissatisfaction result. However, if as part of their training process, managers could be taught to delegate more to their secretaries, they would soon see the benefit through greater co-operation and motivation.

In the same way, secretaries should be encouraged to be more aware of the management role to increase their own effectiveness and to give them an insight into the pressures and problems of management. Perhaps knowing the down side, fewer secretaries would be so keen to assume a managerial position.

It is time to take a fresh look at the secretarial conundrum in order to introduce a sense of direction to the profession. Secretaries represent a wasted resource and are capable of making a greater contribution. The "skills gap" must surely mean more than a deficiency in shorthand speed.

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TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-256 8501

Comptroller Rochester Cathedral

Following a management review the Dean and Chapter intend to create the new post of Cathedral Comptroller and Lay Canon. This lay person will share fully in the Chapter's policy and decision-making processes; will have overall direction of the administrative and financial affairs of the Cathedral and its property, including about forty houses in a conservation area; and will have general oversight of the Cathedral's staff.

Candidates, aged under 55, should possess strong administrative and interpersonal skills and a knowledge of finance and accountancy, gained in a position of senior management. The person appointed will be a fully committed member of the Church of England, willing to share in the worshipping life of the Cathedral. An attractive precinct house will be available, free of rent and rates (or a housing allowance). Salary c. £15,000. The Comptroller will take up the post by September 1st, 1988 or earlier by arrangement.

Please apply to Sir Timothy Hoare, Bt, Career Plan Ltd, Chichester House, Chichester Rens, off Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EG. Tel. 01-242 5775.

Career plan
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Detailed responsibilities include:

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- large (over 100) terminal network
- use of bureau services
- the development of in-house company systems
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Ideally, you will be around 30 years with a background of management in a software development environment (or in a technically based large user) with a high degree of technical and administrative competence. You will be the sort to thrive on a balance of:

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- the well planned, coherent provision of excellent computer facilities.

In the first instance submit your CV to the advising Modus Consultant.

ST221

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MODUS

FURMANITE

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whose primary tasks will be the sale of services and products to process plant contractors and OEM's and the management of resulting contracts. UK based with extensive travel in UK and overseas.

Candidates should be qualified mechanical engineers with a record of success in international sales and project management, and a first hand knowledge of the process plant contracting industry.

OVERSEAS SALES EXECUTIVE

to be responsible for a sale of a range of products to the refining, petrochemical and power industries, both direct and via agents, in selected overseas markets. UK based with extensive overseas travel.

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Both these posts offer considerable scope for individual initiative and excellent career prospects. Salaries and benefits will relate to experience and qualifications and will be geared to results. Relocation may not be necessary.

Please write with C.V., indicating present salary, to:-

Mr Donald McGivray
Overseas Business Development Director
Furmanite International Limited, Furman House, Ship Road
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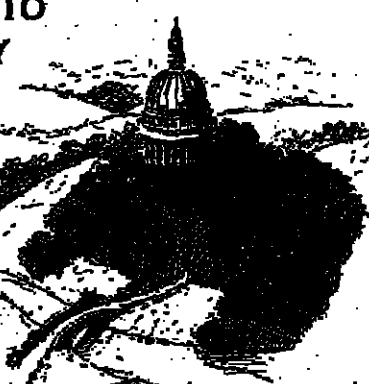
This department is currently handling over 50,000 calls per month from private investors, and we now require a number of telesales people to help deal with expanding levels of new business.

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mance related bonus and the usual benefits you would expect from a successful company.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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Please write with CV including present salary, or telephone for an application form. Bob Duller, Recruitment Officer, H.J. Heinz Company Limited, Hayes Park, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 8AL. Tel: 01-848 2375.

Heinz

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Please write with a detailed C.V. to: Mr. J. B. Elwell, Managing Director, Saia Division, Burgess Group PLC, Fleming Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 3DU.

Deputy Director
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North London £20,000 + benefits

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A qualified engineer, aged around 35 years, is sought to reinforce its activities centered on a North London location.

In order to develop the firm's activities in the South East the applicant will be required to demonstrate a strong marketing talent in addition to engineering skills.

If you are attracted by an essentially marketing engineering role, please send concise details, including current salary and daytime telephone number, quoting reference S9142, to Stanley J Stanley, Executive Selection Division, Grant Thornton Management Consultants Limited, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP

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Simon Freeman,
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The successful candidate will be responsible for advising on all Middle Eastern operations involving the acquisition, sale and marketing of crude oil and products.

Applicants, ideally aged 35-55, must be graduates in business or economics, with substantial experience in the oil industry in a senior position, including working experience in Saudi Arabia, and must be fluent in Arabic. Most importantly, they must have the ability to advise senior management on the oil industry in the Middle East and to work effectively at the highest levels of the international oil markets. The remuneration offered is competitive. Please send curriculum vitae to: Michael Bowers, Managing Director at TWL (UK) Limited, 3 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4JF.

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£25,000-£30,000 as an expanding multi branch consultancy, we are anxious to interview ambitious young consultants who recognise the importance of recruitment within the financial sector.

Enjoying an increasing share of a competitive market we are eager to build on our success and wish to interview consultants with proven track records both academically and professionally. Candidates with less than 1 years' recruitment experience are unlikely to be sufficiently qualified.

In addition to high earnings we can offer a range of benefits including a company car after a qualifying period.

Contact in confidence: David Ellis on 01 831 2829 or 01 221 4819 after working hours.

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Call POLLY SUMMERFIELD on 0932 856166

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If you combine the personal and professional qualities we demand, respond positively to change and are keen to experience an environment which asks and offers more, please write with full CV to: Christopher Hooper, Personnel Department, Lloyd's, London House, 6 London Street, London EC3R 7AB.

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Within 2 years

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No previous experience is needed as full technical and sales training is provided.

Candidates must be well spoken, well dressed, aged 23-35, able to show success in their previous employment and be able to assume a management role at an early stage.

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A unique opportunity exists within a highly successful Interior Design company committed to prestigious projects for an enthusiastic, self-motivated Interior Designer/Architectural Assistant. Applicants will be aged 23 - 30 years with sound work experience and fine design draughting ability. An excellent salary will be offered.

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Please ring Miss Annett on 01 481 1166

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£10,500

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Applicants should send full career details, including current salary, to: Mr Michael Johnson, Senior Trade Commissioner, Austrade, Australia House, Strand, London WC2B 4LA, to arrive no later than 14 October 1987.

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has a vacancy for Head of Fund Raising to supervise and co-ordinate an enlarged fund raising programme covering all aspects of the Association's work. Salary NUC Scale (113,904-116,962). Job description and application form available from:

The Office Manager, RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB.

RADAR is an equal opportunities employer

WANTED: Chief, proven manager, must have 5 years experience in the financial services industry. Tel: 01 272 5200

WINTER staff. Cooks required by small chef. Good working conditions, good salary, 40 hours per week. Tel: 01 481 4814

MAYFAIR chartered accountant with small but interesting company. Good practice, good office, a very experienced base for a year or so to a qualified person. Please send CV to: 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

THE JERUSALEM TRUST
ADMINISTRATOR

The Jerusalem Trust is one of the Sainsbury family charitable trusts, based in London. It was established in 1982 exclusively for the advancement of the Christian religion and of Christian education and learning, and for the relief of suffering as an expression of Christian concern. Due to the continuing expansion of this work, the trustees now seek a full-time administrator to monitor existing schemes and to identify and initiate new projects within the stated policy of the trust.

The post requires someone between 35 and 55 with initiative, discretion and tact, and with a successful record of administration. It is essential that applicants should have commitment to the expressed objects of the Trust.

Salary negotiable to £25,000 p.a. according to experience. Please send application and brief c.v. in confidence, by 31st October 1987, to:

Mr H L de Quetteville
Director
The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts
13 New Row, St Martin's Lane
London WC2N 4LF

EXPORT SALES EXECUTIVE
SALARY CIRCA £15,000

Our clients, a blue chip company, in its field, are seeking to appoint an export sales executive as a consequence of its expansion.

Ideally, you will be aged 28 to 35, speak a European language and have a proven track record in export sales. A technical background would be an advantage. The successful candidates will possess good communicative skills and must be able to respond positively to rapid development, greater responsibilities and promotional prospects.

In return the company is offering an attractive remuneration package of salary circa £15,000 together with company car and private health care.

If you feel you could respond to this challenge please write enclosing a current CV or telephone the consultants.

RA RYDALE ASSOCIATES LTD
Hunter House, 57 Goodramgate, York YO1 2LS. Telephone: 0904 610657

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
£27,355-£35,062

The BMA is the doctors' professional association.

The new post of Assistant Secretary - Hospitals (Senior) Division - has been established as part of the restructuring of the Hospitals Division.

The successful applicant will be based at the Association's London Headquarters and is required to ensure the efficient servicing of major BMA committees dealing with the terms and conditions of service and professional interests of senior hospital doctors and medical academic staff. Duties will also include public speaking and representing the BMA to the press and media on matters relating to senior hospital doctors.

Applicants must have a degree and management skills, and ideally a working knowledge of Parliament, Government Departments, Health Authorities, Universities and medico-political issues.

The post requires frequent out of hours commitment and, less frequently, travel away from home.

Benefits include a company car, an excellent contributory pension scheme and 6 weeks annual leave.

Applicants should send full details of previous experience etc. to: R. Firth, Personnel Manager, BMA, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JZ. Closing date Friday 23 October 1987.

BMA

MOVE INTO
MANAGEMENT

We need people now to train into Management for our office in Central London.

If you are aged between 21 and 35 please telephone

437 8070

Expected income £17,000

THE TURF CLUB
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SOUGHT

The Turf Club is seeking to appoint a Secretary, who will be responsible for the administration of the Club's affairs. There is no stereotype for a such a post, but an ability to handle a disparate body of people - both members and staff - is the prime requirement. Thus tact is essential, a high degree of numeracy is mandatory, and a knowledge of catering would be an advantage.

Please write in confidence, enclosing a C.V. to: The Chairman, Turf Club, 4 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AQ.

مكتبة الامم

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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NEGOTIABLE SALARY & BENEFITS

Celltech, Europe's foremost biotechnology company, is expanding its research and development of Pharmaceutical products derived from monoclonal antibodies and recombinant DNA techniques, and now wishes to appoint dedicated Project Managers to assume full responsibility for all aspects of the planning and management of projects in both research and development phases.

As a Project Manager, you will be responsible for detailed project planning and control, preparation of budgets, and the achievement of project objectives, both scientific and in terms of cost and time. You will need the energy and enthusiasm to build and lead a multi-disciplinary team, combined with drive and determination to mastermind the conversion of scientific concepts into commercial products.

These senior positions require a scientific background to Ph.D level, an awareness of commercial issues, and management experience. It is likely that you are currently working in the pharmaceutical or related industry sectors and may be looking for a career move from a specialist position to a more general management role.

The competitive remuneration package, will reflect the importance we attach to these posts, and the relevance of the experience of successful candidates. If you believe you can meet our exacting standards please write with full details, including current salary, to Bernadette Poole, c/o PSAS, 100a High Street, Slough, Berks, quoting ref. no. 056.



CONFERENCE DIRECTOR

C. £20,000

Profex is a rapidly growing company organising major conferences, and is looking to expand through internal growth.

As Conference Director you will have responsibility for the successful development of major commercial conferences. Applicants should be energetic and self-motivated, with good communication skills and have a proven track record. An ability to organise conferences of the highest standard, to generate ideas and to develop and market conferences effectively is essential.

The salary and package is negotiable C. £20,000, and prospects for the right candidate are excellent.

Please reply in confidence, enclosing a full comprehensive curriculum vitae to: Philip Shipman, Managing Director, Profex, Profex House, 25-27 School Lane, Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD2 1BR.



CARRAUN PLC

SENIOR SALES PROFESSIONALS

Carraun PLC is a rapidly growing group of companies with activities spanning a wide range of specialist marketing services including retail merchandising systems, branded promotional casual and sportswear, incentive gifts and exterior signage.

Two key sales personnel are sought to maintain the group's aggressive business development programme.

Group Sales Director (c.£25,000 p.a. plus full package including car and realistic incentive scheme).

Reporting to the Group Managing Director, the successful applicant will work closely with the senior management team in each operating company to ensure the effective implementation and co-ordination of sales strategies.

Sales Manager, P.L. Prints (c.£16,000 p.a. plus full package including car and realistic incentive scheme).

This operating company is a leading supplier of high quality casual and sportswear for both retail sales and branded corporate promotional activity. Reporting to the Managing Director, the appointee will manage the sales team and take personal responsibility for the development of business through an expanding group of "blue chip" key accounts.

For both roles a proven track record in a fast moving commercial sales environment is essential, as are high levels of enthusiasm and commitment.

Applicants for both posts should be sent to the Managing Director, Carraun PLC, Carraun House, 9 Lydden Rd, London SW18 4LT

LAN/WAN

Rapidly expanding subsidiary of multi-national Oil Group needs innovative network professionals.

SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

Professionals experienced in micro driven LAN/WAN design, installation and support are required to manage large worldwide projects from functional spec through final acceptance with leading edge technology.

SYSTEM SALES

Newly developed, fault tolerant, micro driven LAN/WAN technology provides enormous leverage to build large, prestige portfolio. This position is a unique, fast-track opportunity for a mature, professional.

Contact William Pennington on 01 629-9751 or 01 491-7253

INTERTECH U.K. LIMITED

3 Princes St. London W1R 7RA

PROJECT MANAGER

Danesfield House in Medmenham, Marlow is going to be converted into an exclusive 90 bedroom 5-star hotel.

We are looking for an experienced Project Manager with an extensive background in converting old buildings into hotels.

If you have all the necessary qualifications with an emphasis on meeting deadlines and budgets, please contact us as soon as possible for an appointment. Please write to Danesfield Limited, Medmenham, Marlow, Bucks SL7 3ES or phone 0734-343761 / 343214.

SECURITY SUPERVISOR

Security Supervisor required to join our existing security team, to take charge of security personnel on a shift rota basis.

This is a non-uniform position and a requires the incumbent to compile lucid reports and be able to communicate effectively at all levels using extreme tact.

Applicants should be aged 35/50 years and have police or service experience. The salary is circa £14,000, and the position carries other benefits such as free BUPA and 6 weeks holiday per annum.

Write with full cv to:

Mr. S.H. Edwards,
Security Manager,
London Post (Printers) Limited,
P.O. Box 481,
1, Virginia Street,
London E1 9BD.

ADVERTISING PRODUCTION CLERK

To work as part of a small team in the EC1 area.

The successful applicant will be in their early twenties with experience in handling both display and classified advertisement copy. The position requires liaising with sales and editorial departments as well as with type-setters and printers.

Attractive salary, generous holiday entitlement and excellent benefits.

Applications in writing, enclosing your C.V. to:

R.E. Gobbett
Personnel Controller
London Post (Printers) Ltd
PO. Box 48, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD
Previous applicants need not re-apply

ARE YOU READY TO GRADUATE TO SALES MANAGEMENT?

Save & Prosper are amongst the fastest growing in the financial services industry with over 100 years experience and sales approaching £5 million.

As part of our current expansion programme we are looking for an ambitious Sales Manager to head up a special sales project.

You will be a graduate, probably in your late 20s with at least 2 years experience and possibly with management experience. You will have the belief, determination and ability to direct other graduates in a sales career with Save & Prosper with the highest degree of an individual.

Your qualities of energy, initiative and energy will ensure an attractive remuneration package including a full range of benefits and a car.

We offer career long training in both sales and management skills with the effective building experience and confidence.

If you have the potential and ambition to meet this challenge, then telephone Tony Stannard on 01 389 1717 or alternatively send your CV to Mr A. Stannard, Executive Director, Save & Prosper Ltd, 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2AY. Your response will be treated in complete confidence.

ASSISTANT MANAGER REQUIRED

At Central London indoor tennis club. Some management experience preferred but not necessarily in sports field.

Apply by phone in first instance 723 2187

EXPORT MANAGER

An immediate vacancy exists in the City for someone with good all-round experience in procurement and supply to various countries in Tropical Africa and elsewhere. Familiarity with export documentation and shipping is vital. Varied range mainly one-off industrial products.

Knowledge of countertrade an advantage. We seek a practising Christian. Please contact Mr Steele on 01-283 4087

AT A CAREER CROSSROADS?

HB Stewart Investment Services is making positions, aged 25 to 30 and who possess a degree, in the following areas: Finance Advisor, Insurance Advisor, Estate Agent, Property Advisor, and a variety of other financial products and services. London.

Contact: Peter Crooks on (0800) 528441 HB Stewart Investment Services, 100 Victoria Road, Wokingham, RG40 3AB.

We require a Purchased Recent Graduate

with a degree in Business Administration to work in our main office at Marlow Arch, Exeter. The salary package for a hard working and enthusiastic person.

Write or phone to C.M. at Plaza Estates, 23 Upper Grosvenor Street, W1, 400 1400.

Interested candidates should write, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. to:

D. Hopkins, Price Waterhouse, Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor SL4 1HB.

NEW SYSTEMS NEW CAREERS

Exciting opportunities exist within Holborn based Professional Networks Ltd. with the ongoing support and development of ADVISA, a PC based broker system for Life and Pensions. The successful candidates will join an established expert team developing a knowledge based system using Crystal, Viewdata Networking, distributed Databases and 'C' programming within a specialised MS-DOS environment. As well as the excellent salaries on offer, company benefits include BUPA, Life Assurance, P.H.I. and performance bonus.

PROJECT TEAM LEADER

c. 25K + Benefits
Essential Skills:
-All round management and leadership skills.
-Life and Pensions in D.P. environment.
-Systems development and implementation.
-Minimum 5 years.

KNOWLEDGE ENGINEER

c. 15-20K + Benefits
Essential Skills:
-Crystal: any application
-Life and Pensions packages
-User Liaison
-Minimum 1 year

PLEASE CONTACT PHIL KENVIN ON 01-377 2400 EXT 244, AND SEND CV'S TO 56/58 ARTILLERY LANE, LONDON, E1 7LS.

MARLBOROUGH STIRLING

BROKERS

who are unable to continue as independent intermediaries and who wish to maintain their own independent operations should ring

Russell Whitchurch
UK Sales Manager
Australian Mutual Provident Society
on 01-686 5611
to see what packages are available

ARE YOU A POTENTIAL MANAGER?

FPS (Management) Ltd, a leading firm of financial advisers in the UK are looking for

TRAINEE MANAGERS

Aged 21+ to join a successful and rapidly expanding operation. Our individual and corporate clients benefit from our specialist advice on personal and business finance, investments, pensions, taxation, mortgages, insurance etc. We require professional, ambitious and self-motivated individuals who, with full training, will enjoy high income, valuable share participation and opportunity for management.

Charles Findlater 01-240 2118.

ADVERTISING SALES ON TARGET EARNINGS £40K PA

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people.

If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner, then we would like to talk to you.

There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants. In the first instance please call David Conway or Ben Crocker on 240 1515.

TOP DIRECT

SALES CLOSERS

We require six top sales closers experienced in selling direct to the public.

You will be capable of playing a key role in a professional company and you will work solely from pre-qualified sales leads in the holiday industry.

NO DEBITS - NO CANVASSING NO RETENTIONS

If you are between the ages of 30 - 45 years and can show us that you are a top closer demonstrating honesty and integrity, a proven track record and management potential, we in turn will show you a top paid career with a leading European Company.

GENUINE ENQUIRIES ONLY PLEASE If you think you can meet our criteria and wish to make an appointment for an interview please telephone:

GRAHAM HEMMINGS 0783 48824
LESLIE MARSH 0294 296512
The Global Group of Companies



LESLIE MARSH & CO ESTATE AGENTS

Enthusiastic and personable negotiator required for fast expanding firm of West London Estate Agents. Previous experience not a necessity, however a professional attitude is required. Basic + commission package available to cater for all. Ring 603 5181 Ref SV.

PARTY INGREDIENTS WINES

We require a young assistant to help run our new wine Cash and Carry at Vauxhall. Ideal opportunity for someone motivated in gaining experience of the wine trade. Applicants should be aged 20-25 and able to drive. Starting salary £8,000 pa. Susie Robinson 01 720 0904

Engineers for the Nuclear Industry

Nuclear power is an important industry in the UK. Nationwide there are 40,000 jobs directly involved in the civil nuclear programme, backed by a further 100,000 in British industry supplying hardware and services.

The UKAEA fulfils a central role in the nuclear industry. We are proud of our varied programme of R&D in support of nuclear power and of our growing portfolio of non-nuclear work under contract to industry. To meet the demand for our services, we have 8 outstandingly well equipped laboratories in England and

Scotland using some of the most advanced engineering, scientific and computing facilities in Europe.

We are among the foremost employers of high quality engineers and scientists in the country. We recognise that our people are our most precious resource and we are committed to developing their abilities in a fully professional manner.

We are looking now for a number of experienced and highly capable engineers to play a leading role in carrying out our business

forward. They will be professionally qualified, with a proven record of success in an engineering career. They will be well motivated, ambitious, and demonstrate strong managerial capabilities combined with technical flair and a keen awareness of customer needs.

Do you match this profile? If you do, we would like to hear from you and meet you informally to tell you how you could fit into the UKAEA and what we can offer you in return for your expertise. This would include the facilities and benefits expected of a

major organisation, including full relocation assistance where appropriate together with an excellent remuneration package with a salary on appointment of up to £17,000 a year depending on experience. There are prospects for early promotion to senior posts with salaries rising to over £21,000, and for further promotion beyond that.

Telephone Cleo Parvin on 01-930 5454 X476 or X548 for an application form, or write to her at Personnel Policy Branch, UKAEA, 11 Charles II Street, London SW1Y 4QP.

UKAEA · UKAEA · UKAEA & D&Energy & R&D & Energy & R&D & Energy & R&D



BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR DESIGNATE PROPERTY SERVICES

West London c£25,000 + bonus + car

A rapidly expanding multi-discipline professional practice involved in all aspects of property development, design and service, is seeking a dynamic young Chartered Accountant to assume responsibility for the overall financial systems and controls.

Situated in pleasant modern offices in Twickenham, this plc group of companies has recently streamlined its management structure, and is seeking a self-motivated individual with the ability to guide the group into the next stage of its planned development, which includes a listing of its shares.

Probably aged 28/35 the candidate will preferably have had experience in related areas, but this is not so important as enthusiasm and drive, the ability to communicate with other professionals, and the willingness to form part of an entrepreneurial management team committed to rapid growth and expansion. A familiarity with micro-computers, and the ability to use computers as an aid to planning and management control is essential.

The remuneration package is negotiable and will include a performance-linked bonus and the prospect of share options in the future.

Interested candidates should write, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. to: D. Hopkins, Price Waterhouse, Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor SL4 1HB.

BUSINESS RESEARCH MANAGER

Our client, a full service Bank, part of an international Banking Group, wishes to appoint a young experienced market analyst to join its senior management team.

As Business Research Manager, you will be responsible for identifying the research and information requirements to develop the group's activities, implementing and commissioning appropriate research and analyses and ensuring that the results are fully exploited within the group.

Ideally you should be in your early 30's probably educated to MBA level with relevant research experience. An ability to prepare meaningful business planning proposals and communicate at the highest management levels is particularly important. You will have experience in the financial services and banking sectors.

The remuneration package will

not prove to be an obstacle to the right candidate.

Please submit a detailed C.V. indicating current remuneration to T. Kowalski

Hunter Associates RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Premier House, 77 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RB
Tel: 01-434 0511.

01-481 4481

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

01-481 4481

**Financial Analyst/Planner
"WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...?"****£19,000 including allowance + benefits**

We are looking for someone with the analytical and planning expertise to provide the answer to such questions, thereby helping to achieve our planned growth of more than 800% over the next 5 years.

Abbey National Estate Agency is the latest example of Abbey National's commitment to explore and expand into new business areas which have a natural affinity with our traditional financial activities. Our network of tied agents is expected to grow to 1200 by the early 1990s and turnover is doubling annually. Obviously, strong financial management is essential.

Your job will be to provide the information and guidance needed to meet our business and financial objectives. Specifically, you will prepare, develop and operate the financial models required to plan and forecast all aspects of the company's financial performance, including budgets, 5-Year Plans, and Pricing Policies. In practice, you will be providing possible outcomes and solutions to hypothetical "what if" problems.

Although you do not necessarily need to be a qualified Accountant you are likely to be studying for a relevant qualification. You must have a sound training in budgeting and financial planning, and be able to demonstrate an understanding of how a business operates. You must be extremely computer literate, showing considerable expertise in the use of personal mini-computers and purchased software.

Based in our Baker Street office, we offer an attractive salary together with an excellent range of benefits which include pension scheme, profit share scheme, subsidised BUPA and relocation assistance where appropriate. Please send full career and salary details to Graham Gould, Manager - Personnel Services, Abbey National Estate Agency Limited, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL.

The closing date for applications, which are invited from all sections of the community, is 19 October 1987.



Brewer Morris Pure Taxation Recruitment RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY

PACKAGE INDICATOR £15,000 - £30,000 + CAR + BENEFITS

BREWER MORRIS is a recently formed recruitment consultancy specialising exclusively in the taxation world. Our partners have a combined total of over 15 years in recruitment and we are developing a small, close knit team of consultants. The firm has proved to be extremely successful, and is committed to providing a highly professional and ethical service. Our growth rate and potential are considerable.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY is a rapidly changing and expanding industry. It is no longer a "job shop" environment. It is a challenging, people-orientated business, demanding commitment, creativity, initiative, determination and hard work.

THE REWARDS are considerable - both financial and personal. Overall remuneration is dependent on effort, marketing skills and an ability to develop successful, long term relationships with individuals and clients.

SUITABLE CANDIDATES will be aged under 30, with good academic backgrounds, and will have some experience in taxation, accountancy or recruitment. You will have strong marketing and communication skills, energy, enthusiasm and an interest in a demanding career.

THE FUTURE is exciting. Joining us now as a trainee or consultant offers a unique opportunity to develop with the firm as it grows.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION CALL

PETER MORRIS ON (01) 353 6405

OR WRITE TO: BREWER MORRIS, LUDGATE HOUSE, 107 FLEET STREET, LONDON EC4A 2AB
EVENINGS & WEEKENDS: PETER MORRIS (01) 747 1808

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST

- ASSET BASED FINANCE
- TOTAL SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS
- SALARY C. £30K + BENEFITS

An innovative Business Systems Analyst who can provide direction and produce tangible results is needed to strengthen our client's central team responsible for Information Technology throughout Europe.

An in-depth understanding of their business is essential as is the ability to manage the involvement of disparate user groups on common projects. Whilst the role covers all aspects of systems development from business and technical analysis, systems design, systems building using 4GL tools, through to implementation, the major emphasis is on the initial analysis and ensuring that the implemented systems are fully utilised.

A sound knowledge of the accounting aspects of commercial lending and a breadth of experience of Organisation and Methods, or structured systems analysis, are prerequisites. A demonstrable track record of delivering results in a fast moving environment is also required. Fluency in French and/or German would be a definite advantage.

If interested please respond quickly by calling Anne Gilbert on (01) 629 8070, or alternatively by sending a detailed curriculum vitae to her quoting Ref. L255, at Slade Consulting Group (UK) Limited, Metro House, 58 St James's Street, London SW1A 1LD. All applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

**Excellent Accounting
Opportunities in Publishing****Oxford****£18,000 + Benefits**

Our client is one of the most successful international publishers, with a prestigious list of titles across the fields of Academic, Educational, and General publishing.

Continuing business growth and planned development of accounting and information systems has created an excellent opportunity for a career-minded accountant to join the group's high-calibre Central Publishing finance department.

With responsibility for the integrity of the accounting systems, regular financial reporting and the supervision of a

complex costing system, the successful candidate will lead a team of five financial accounting staff.

Candidates should be qualified accountants who can demonstrate a successful career to date together with the initiative and potential to take full advantage of the excellent career opportunities available within the organisation.

Interested candidates should contact Paul Boardman ACMA on 0753 856151 or write to him at Kingsbury House, 6 Sheet Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BG.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC

**DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE**

CDC is a statutory body charged with the task of assisting overseas countries in the development of their economies. This involves investigating, formulating and carrying out projects for the promotion or expansion of new or existing enterprises within a wide variety of businesses including agriculture, fisheries, minerals, industry, public utilities, transport, communications, housing and hotels. Operating in 47 countries with 17 offices overseas and one in London, its investments and commitments, financed both from Government loans and self generated funds, exceed £970 million.

We have a career opening for a recently qualified accountant, offering the prospect of overseas employment on a world wide basis. We would like, therefore, to hear from you if you are a graduate, in your early to mid 20s, wishing to develop your career in an international environment. A working knowledge of French is desirable.

The person appointed would be expected to spend an initial period in the London office before being posted to a project or an overseas office. During this time experience would be gained in a range of operational activities including financial analysis, portfolio monitoring and investment appraisal. This is likely to involve occasional short term assignments overseas.

Starting salary will depend on qualifications and experience. Other benefits include a non-contributory pension scheme, free medical insurance (after twelve months), fully subsidised lunches and season ticket loans. The range of benefits for service overseas is generous and competitive.

Applications, with a full curriculum vitae including current salary package, should be sent to: M. B. Knott, Senior Personnel Executive, CDC, 33 Hill Street, London W1A 3AR.

**SYSTEMS AUDIT
MANAGER**

to £30,000
+ Car + Bfts
City

International investment bankers seek high calibre qualified accountants aged 25-35. Candidates should either have a BIG 8 background or presently be employed as systems auditors within the finance sector. This position provides outstanding career prospects plus progression into pure systems development. Ref: RK 626

DIRECTOR POTENTIAL

£26,000 + car
C. London

High growth media and marketing group, shortly to go public, wishes to appoint a 1st time passes ACA aged 26-34 as Chief Accountant. Proven staff control and computer skills are essential together with the ability to influence the Board on acquisitions and joint ventures. Ref: MJF 579.

**FINANCIAL
CONTROLLER**

to £21,000 + Bfts
Middlesex

Rapidly expanding division of world-wide leisure organisation seeks an ambitious accountant. With good all-round post qualification experience your responsibilities will include systems development, costing and imports/exports. The successful candidate will show the necessary aggression to ensure early promotion. Ref: AN 638.

**MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTANT**

to £20,080
City

Leading communications organisation currently offers an interesting opportunity to a qualified accountant, aged 30-40. Monthly accounts, budgets, forecasts and systems development are included in the broad specification. A mature approach, plus good systems experience are essential requirements. Ref: AC 293.

SENIOR ANALYST

N.W. London
£18,000 + car

A new and exciting force in information technology offers a varied, proactive role for a finalist keen to develop analytical skills. Responsibilities will include operational review, feasibility studies, and liaising with senior line managers. Varied prospects exist within the group. Ref: LA 541.

HUDSON SHRIBMAN

THE COMPLETE FINANCIAL SELECTION SERVICE

Vernon House, Sicilian Avenue, London WC1A 2QH. Tel. 01-831 2323

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE MERCHANT BANK plc

The London merchant bank of Société Générale, France

Two interesting openings have arisen in Société Générale Merchant Bank plc, the London subsidiary of one of the largest international banking groups.

BANKING & LOANS EXECUTIVE

(AGE 30 - 40)

We need an experienced credit analyst with good banking experience in the City of London, who has a degree in a relevant discipline and is AIB qualified. Desirable attributes would be marketing experience in a banking environment, and a measure of fluency in business French.

CORPORATE FINANCE ASSISTANT

(AGE 23 - 25)

This is a new position based in London, for an assistant to support a small Mergers & Acquisitions team. We envisage a recently UK-qualified accountant with corporate finance or other relevant exposure, also an understanding of French language for business.

Salary range £12k - £15k, including usual banking benefits. If you would like to be considered for either of these appointments, please write in confidence, with CV and date of availability, to:

Tom Orler, Head of Management Services
Société Générale Merchant Bank plc
7th Floor, 60 Gracechurch Street, London EC3V 0ET.

ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Salary Circa £13,000pa

Applications are invited for the post of Accounts Manager, a key post in the Company. The Accounts Manager will be responsible for the accounting functions of a Company Limited by Guarantee and will assist in the formulation of new systems and policies.

Applicants, not necessarily qualified, preferably in their late 30's to 40's should be experienced in using manual and computerised systems, payroll, VAT, budgets and preparation of final accounts. They will be expected to exercise considerable professional and personal skills with enthusiasm and generally work in accord with other professional colleagues.

First class conditions include contributory pension scheme, non-contributory life assurance scheme, permanent health insurance, private medical insurance, 26 days annual leave.

Applications with full curriculum vitae should be addressed to Mr M D Hodgkinson, Company Secretary, CIRIA, 6 Storey's Gate, London SW1P 3AU.

**GROUP FINANCIAL
CONTROLLER**

Central London c £25,000

A challenging opportunity exists for a chartered accountant to play a major role in a new role of financial/commercial service sector companies.

The successful candidate is likely to have had responsibility for the introduction of financial management and control systems. Hands on micro computer systems experience is essential.

This opportunity will prove attractive to an accountant wishing to play a significant role in corporate development.

Please contact R J Stallard on 01-405-4571

**SENIOR UK
EQUITIES
SETTLEMENT
CLERK**

£15-17K

This large Merchant Bank in the City is looking for a Senior UK Equities Settlement Clerk. The successful candidate must have a minimum of 5 years experience and will be required to supervise two others.

For immediate interviews please contact Garry Hobson or Julie Maxwell on 01-623 1635.

145 FENCHURCH STREET
EC3

Ask ALFRED MARKS

**& DONN
CO. SOLUTIONS**

This Manchester City Centre based firm of Solicitors with a network of branch offices in the suburbs has an immediate vacancy for a

**FINANCIAL CONTROLLER/
PARTNERSHIP
SECRETARY**

The successful applicant will be responsible for the Accounts Department which is computerised, and also for the preparation of Budget, Cashflows and Monthly Accounts. He/she will attend all partners' meetings and be involved in the day-to-day running of the practice. It is expected that this post may attract an Accountant who has been employed in industry and who now wishes to return to a professional environment, although other applicants will also be considered.

The financial package will be according to experience, but will incorporate a salary of not less than £15K. Applicants should send their CV to

Mr Donn, Donn & Co, 26 Cross Street, Manchester M2 7AN.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Home Counties c. £23,000 + Car

Our client, a rapidly expanding group in the life assurance and financial services sector who will soon be seeking a public listing, now wishes to recruit a management accountant to strengthen further the finance function.

Reporting to the Chief Accountant, the main tasks will include the preparation of the monthly package of management, financial and statistical data, the development of budgets, cash

forecasts and strategic plans, statutory reporting and systems appraisals work. This is a challenging and exciting opportunity for young graduate ACA/ACCA, with large firm experience, ideally including financial services; there are excellent progression prospects.

Please write in confidence with full career details quoting ref 3808/2 to John W Hills.

KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

Executive Selection and Search
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

CJES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5SU
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-588 3501

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

LONDON, W8 £17,000 + £2,000 GTD BONUS + CAR

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY TECHNOLOGY GROUP

This is a challenging and demanding appointment calling for an executive 'high-flying' Personal Assistant to the Managing Director. The successful candidate should be a self-starter with proven experience in a fast-moving environment. Working alongside the Managing Director, they will act as a 'lynch pin' between him and the rest of the Group. As well as supervising his driver and administrative staff they will be expected to employ their own secretary within 2 months and also deputise in his frequent absence. The position will involve client contact - negotiating contracts with clients as well as assisting with the marketing and PR of the Group both internally and externally. Essential qualities are: high self-motivation, excellent negotiating/communicating skills and the ability to make decisions with the minimum of direction and supervision. The salary shown indicates the quality and level of commitment our clients are seeking and there is every opportunity to join the management team for the right candidate. Initial remuneration is negotiable, £15,000-£17,000 plus guaranteed £2,000 Bonus, BUPA, contributory pension, season ticket loan and car after 6 months. Applications in strict confidence under reference PAM0713/TT to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON EC2M 5SU. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-588 3501



* FREE TRAVEL + £13,000 *

Can you see yourself assisting a top American Executive at a top International Bank. Your profile should be senior level experience, age 24-30, with an outgoing and confident personality, excellent grooming and the ability to work under pressure. If you have sound secretarial skills and would enjoy a challenging role then contact us now.

* PA - NO SHORTHAND c £13,000 *

From day one as PA to this young, but Senior Partner, you can be assured 50% varied administration for your initiative and organising ability will most certainly be stretched to the full. Ideally, you are between 22-35, have accurate Audio skills (60 wpm) and in return for your expertise excellent benefits and career prospects are offered.

* WEST END - £12,000 *

Join this young and dynamic company where nobody is over 40! You will enjoy a full PA role at Director level in an expanding and successful environment. 90wpm Shorthand/60wpm typing + WP experience needed.

Please phone
CELIA AHLQUIST or ANN GROVER
on 01-588 6674

6 BROAD STREET PLACE, BLOMFIELD STREET, LONDON EC2 7JH

TRAIN IN RECRUITMENT
CENTRAL LONDON
££NEGOTIABLE

Expansion of
CHARTLEIGH APPOINTMENTS
specialising in WP/Secretarial Placements,
has resulted in the need for additional

RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

The position demands career minded individuals who are aged 21/28, are well educated, self motivated and have a keen business sense. Extensive training will be given to successful applicants, making this an excellent opportunity to succeed within this organisation. If you feel equal to the challenge call Liz Smith on 01-931 8497.

CHARTLEIGH APPOINTMENTS
7 Glen House
Stag Place
London
SW1

P.A./SENIOR
SECRETARY

West End £. neg

Be my right hand and be one step ahead. Take a real interest in our business - your job satisfaction and remuneration will be most rewarding.

We are a friendly, small and dynamic Executive Search Consultancy and as Managing Director I need an experienced and well organised P.A. who appreciates the value of good systems and high class presentation of work. Although you will have your own PC and W/P facilities, typing is a shared responsibility.

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Simon Barnes discovers how the Jockey Club's power and influence kept the developers out of Newmarket

When a gamble was worth the candle



A fight to preserve a scruffy yard was the crucial element in saving the headquarters of the world's racing industry. In the second of a three-part series, *The Times* examines the preservation of a small East Anglian town's rich heritage

You can walk out of Boots in Newmarket, round a couple of corners, and find yourself in a training yard with a dozen or so liquid-eyed horses gazing at you curiously and wondering if the joys of feeding time have come early.

There are training yards everywhere in Newmarket: round the edges, behind the houses and right in the middle of town. There is one called Park Lodge that stands just behind the Jockey Club's majestic building in the High Street. In its way, it is the most significant training establishment of all the 58 yards in and around Newmarket.

Ten years ago, the county council and the local council agreed that the yard, bang in the middle of town as it was, and slightly scruffy-looking to boot, was completely out of place. The horses were a hazard to local traffic, as well. The obvious answer was to develop the place for housing: there was room for 50 of what planning people love to call "dwelling units": no problem.

The Jockey Club took them on. It went to a public enquiry, and the result was a clear victory for racing. Robert Fellowes is the Club's Newmarket man; he has been there "ages", there for 23 years. "One of the main arguments was that horses cause accidents," he said. "Our argument was that so do vehicles, and that 50 vehicles would cause more accidents than 50 horses."

Ron Sheather now trains his string of horses at the yard: No more has been heard about the dwelling unit.

The point is that this was a test case. It was a test of the clout of the Jockey Club, and therefore of the entire racing industry in Newmarket. And, crucially, it was a test of the Newmarket Charter. The Charter is one of the most peculiar documents in the history of sport. It is a document that sanctions and preserves what Newmarket has become: a kind of company town for the racing industry. "It is without doubt the most important achievement of the Jockey Club during my time," Fellowes said. "The Charter was signed by the local authority, the county council and various other bodies concerned, recognizing that Newmarket was the international headquarters of racing, and should be kept as such."

The crucial factor was population. During the 1950s and 1960s, population planning was a major issue, and the key strategy was overspill. At one stage Newmarket was prepared to take on 20,000 *émigré* Londoners: more than doubling its population, which stands at around 18,000.



Where history speaks: Robert Fellowes, the Jockey Club's representative in Newmarket, in the Coffee Room (Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

Such an influx would have transformed the town utterly. It would have changed the nature of local politics, increased the might of the local council, decreased the importance of racing to the town, ended racing's near-monopoly on labour and therefore its control of wages, and would have brought other employers and other industries. Not everyone sees these things as disadvantages to a small country town.

Many of the stables are in the middle of town, and therefore on prime residential land. The planners had eyed up land owned by a number of studs on the outskirts, and seen them as perfect for building homes for the overspill thousands. "I think it is true to say that the Jockey Club fought it more or less single-handedly," Fellowes said. "And there is no doubt that it was a great victory."

Thus Newmarket remains a town primarily for horses: all 7,000 of them. One third of the human working population works in racing; but there is,

however, the rest to consider. "When I first came here, there is no doubt that there was a very serious rift between the horse and the populace," Fellowes said. "Relations had reached a very low ebb, and my mandate was to heal that rift."

"Obviously there are still problems. Drivers go too fast past strings of horses, and equally, I have to say that sometimes strings of horses do not pay sufficient regard to the interest of the motorist. But on the whole, it works pretty well."

"I have been involved as a peacemaker countless times. I aim to be approachable, and to appreciate that there is another point of view to that of the horseman. I want people to see that the Jockey Club is human. For example, when I first came here, no one except members entered the club. The building just stood on the High Street and people, tugged their forelocks as they went past. Now we open the building for charitable functions and so on."

It is easy to feel uneasy about the Jockey Club:

its own reputation for power, privilege and secretiveness is very oppressive. It is probably the last place in the world you would expect to find a jockey. Even the Jockey Club seems a trifle uneasy: hence this *glimpse* policy.

It must be hard to be bright, breezy and forward-looking in the Jockey Club building: the walls, with their Stubbies and Hennings, their pictures of blue-chinned jockeys and mythical horses, seem to screech of nameless responsibilities to the past. Even the lavatories are of historic interest. I was told on a brief tour of the place.

At the ancient card tables, at which members would win and lose fortunes with a light laugh, or so the legends would have it, there are still sockets for candles. It was the custom for each player to buy a candle for his corner: if the cards were not running for him, he would say: "The game's not worth the candle," or "it's not worth a light". The Jockey Club is part of history, and has even infiltrated the language.

These days, the Jockey Club is acutely conscious of the hostility it can arouse. It is therefore reasonably keen to have people know that its function is running a multi-million-pound international industry: indeed, racing is the only sport that calls itself an industry, and it does so with pride.

Newmarket remains its headquarters. With the Newmarket Charter signed and tested, and the yards, even those in the middle of the town, are, as Fellowes put it, "sacrosanct", Newmarket has expanded. The human population has been kept under control by the impossibility of building houses there: the number of horses in training has doubled to 2,300 in recent years.

And the expansion continues. The Jockey Club has made 50 acres of its land on the Race Course side of town available for trainers to build yards: there will be space for 10 of them and the horse population will rise by another 500. The first yard will be in operation next season, and the man to train there will be, if the rumours are correct, Bob Champion.

The club owns 4,000 acres in Newmarket, which includes farm and stud land: most important, it owns 2,300 acres of gallops: it is the bouncing turf that makes Newmarket the perfect place for training racehorses.

There are 30 men who look after the gallops — "it is like painting the Fourth Bridge," Fellowes said — and the Club owns the largest gang mower in the world, which is 42ft wide — and even that couldn't cope this summer with all the rain. Training facilities for the booming population of horses have been improved by the introduction of four all-weather gallops, which are oil based, and therefore do not freeze up.

The first of these was a gift from Sheikh Hamdan al Maktoum, half a million quids' worth. The Jockey Club have paid for the others, at a total cost of another £750,000. Owners pay a "Heath Tax" to the Jockey Club of £40 a month for each horse they have in training. They also pay their trainers around £150 a week.

"It used to be argued that if you put the Heath Tax up, they would all go to Epsom, or somewhere, but they never do. One year we put the Heath Tax up quite considerably, and the following season there was a 25 per cent increase in the number of horses in training."

There can be no question about it: Newmarket, throughout the centuries and over the past 20 years, has been the most phenomenal success in sporting terms. More horses are sent there to be trained every year, the biggest trainers are there, and the biggest equine stars are at stud there. Fellowes said: "Newmarket would not be the same town if we had lost the fight about overspill — and that would have had a catastrophic effect on the racing industry."

And with the lure Newmarket has for an ever-increasing number of overseas owners, most particularly the Arabs, Newmarket seems set to continue as the British, and indeed, the world capital of racing. Newmarket is where the rich from all over the world have their dreams. Racing would die tomorrow if all the owners gave it up: just as it would die without the army of stable staff. It is the lads, the foot soldiers of the industry, who are the crucial citizens of Newmarket.

TOMORROW

Stable lads: £110 a week and all that.

WHO'S WHO GUIDE TO THE TRAINERS OF NEWMARKET

Andrew Longmore provides a directory to the trainers who have made and are maintaining Newmarket as the power in racing that it is. He also lists the number of horses in each stable, names the most successful, and records the major successes so far during this season.

Conrad Allen, Broadacre Barn Stables, High Street, Bury Road. Flat/NH. Horses: 15. Staff: 5. Best horse: Sweeping Will. Best race won: Adorned Handicap. First season as a trainer — two winners from the five horses he has run.

Robert Armstrong, St. Gatien. Flat. Horses: 65. Staff: 32.

Alan Bailey, Induna Stables, Fordham Road, Mainly Flat/NH. Horses: 45. Staff: 23. Best horse: Hallgate. Best race won: Ayr Gold Cup, Palace House Stakes.

Gerry Blum, Lower Sackville Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 14. Staff: 5. Best horse: Stay Low. Newmarket's most senior trainer.

Ron Bess, Phoenix Lodge, Rowley Drive, Flat. Horses: 28. Staff: 12. Best horse: Laurie. Best race won: Diomed Stakes.

Oliver Brittain, Carbury, 49 Bury Road, Flat. Horses: 174. Staff: 58. Best horses: Abuzz, Lapiere.

Mountain Kingdom, Saronicos. Best races won: Henry II Stakes, Chesham Stakes, Hungerford Stakes. Others: 2nd St. Leger.

Neville Callaghan, Rathway Stables, 27 Hamilton Road, Mainly Flat. Horses: 53. Staff: 18.

Ian Campbell, Tower House Stables, Cheyney Park, Flat/NH. Horses: 12. Staff: 5. First season on the flat.

Henry Cecil, Warren Place, Flat. Horses: 205 (138 at Warren Place). Staff: 70 (at Warren Place). Best horses: Reference Point, Indian Skimmer, Non De Plume, Midyan, Diminution, Orban, Silverdale Stakes, Gineprock Stakes, Royal Lodge Stakes, Neil Gwyn Stakes, Yorkshire Cup. Broke John Day's record of number of winners trained in one season, set up in 1967, when Reference Point won the St. Leger to become his 147th winner of the season. However, the subsequent disqualification of an early season winner enabled Reference Point to officially break the record.

Clive Charlton, Carbury, 49 Bury Road, Flat. Horses: 174. Staff: 58. Best horses: Abuzz, Lapiere.

Flat/NH. Horses: 15. Staff: 5. Best horse: French Flitter (last year). Stable hit by virus in his first season as trainer.

Hugh Collingridge, Beverley House Stables, Exeter Road, Mainly Flat. Horses: 20. Staff: 7. Best horses: Cuvée Charlie, Madam Taylor. Best race won: Frenchie Bitter Elephant Handicap.

Luca Cunani, Bedford House, Bury Road, Flat. Horses: 120. Staff: 50. Best horses: Then Again, Celestial Storm, Heat A Year, Buckley. Best races won: St. James's Palace Stakes, Queen Anne Stakes.

David Dale, Exeter House, 33 Exeter Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 8. Staff: 3. Best horses: Out Of Hand, My Home (cost 440 gns).

Oliver Dore, Oak Stables, Concorde Stables, Flat. Horses: 50. Staff: 30. Best horse: Prince Grand Tour. Best race won: Tony Hide, Machel Place, Old Station Road, Mainly Flat/NH. Horses: 23. Staff: 9. Best horse: Hollow Hand. Best race won: Stayers Handicap.

Jeremy Hindley, Flat. Horses: 45. Staff: 15. Best horse: Lookton.

Bill Holden, Exeter Stables, Exeter, NH/Flat. Horses: 12. Staff: 5.

Geoff Huffer, La Grange Racing Stables, Sackville Road, Flat. Horses: 48. Staff: 18. Best horses: Peter Heights, Farajulah. Best race won: Federation

to new yard with 60 boxes at end of year.

William Haggas, Somerville Lodge, Fordham Road, Flat. Horses: 26. Staff: 12. Best horses: Tricky Note, In Dreams. Best races won: National Stakes, Mallow Handicap. Currently leading first season trainer.

Ben Hanbury, Diomed Stables, Hamilton Road, Flat. Horses: 70. Staff: 30. Best horses: Frozen Stables, Sleeping Mountain. Best race won: Arlington Maiden Fillies Stakes.

Patrick Haslam, Pogues Stables, Sackville Road, Mainly Flat. Staff: 53. Best horses: Print, Hollow Hand. Best race won: Lover's Secret, Hard As Iron.

William Hastings-Bass, Concorde Stables, Flat. Horses: 50. Staff: 30. Best horse: Prince Grand Tour. Best race won: Tony Hide, Machel Place, Old Station Road, Mainly Flat/NH. Horses: 23. Staff: 9. Best horse: Hollow Hand. Best race won: Stayers Handicap.

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Brewery Beeching Stables. Ray Hutchinson, Fitzroy House, Black Bear Lane, Flat. Horses: 28. Staff: 10. Started training in Newmarket six months ago.

Michael Jarvis, Kramlin House Stables, Fordham Road, Flat. Horses: 55. Staff: 25. Best horses: Street Line, Geseoph, and Pastico. Best race won: Grand Prix de Fonds Européen de L'Elevage, Deauville.

William Jarvis, Phantom House, Fordham Road, Flat. Horses: 25. Staff: 10. Best horses: Colmore Row. Best race won: Norfolk Stakes.

Harry Thompson Jones, Green Lodge, The Severals, Flat. Horses: 30. Staff: 40.

Paul Kelleway, Staffleet, 17 Bury Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 40. Staff: 20. Best horse: Risk Me. Best race won: Grand Prix du Paris.

Ian Mathews, Southgate Stables, Hamilton Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 30. Staff: 12. Best horse: Careless Whisper. Best race won: Lismore Handicap.

Pat Mitchell, Hamilton Stables, Hamilton Road, Mainly Flat. Horses: 25. Staff: 10. Best horse: Tauber. Best race won: Rous Handicap (third). First season as a trainer at Newmarket; has trained elsewhere previously.

David Morley, High Havens Stables, Flat. Horses: 30. Staff: 17. Best horse: Sizzling Situation. Best race won: Federation

Cork and Orrery, In Computer Racing Form's list of top 10 trainers based on number of races won in proportion to number of horses. William Mounsey, Saville House, St. Mary's Square, Flat/NH. Horses: 35. Staff: 12. Best horse: Osterman-Pokel, Gelsenkirchen.

Bill O'Gorman, Graham Place, Flat. Horses: 28. Staff: 11. Best horses: 35, Old Station Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 40. Staff: 15.

J.W. Phipps, Longview Stables, Dullingham Road, Mainly Flat. Horses: 12. Staff: 4. Best horses: Isla Bridge, Bacteriota. Best race won: Bedford Lodge Stakes. Formerly head lad to Bruce Hobbs. Second season in training: 2 winners last year, 9 this year.

Jeff Pearce, Sackville House, Sackville Street, Flat/NH. Horses: 18. Staff: 5. Best horse: Rutherford Gray. First season as a trainer on the flat.

Lester Piggett, Eve Lodge, Hamilton Road, Flat. Horses: 70. Staff: 40. Best horse: Lady Bentley. Best race won: Oaks of Italy.

Sir Mark Prescott, Heath House, Mainly Flat. Horses: 50. Staff: 22. Best horse: John Dobby. Forward Rally, Boy Janie. Best races won: Sea Pigeon Handicap, Eric Symes Handicap, Alex Engineering Insurance Handicap.

Gravin Pritchard-Gordon, Stanley House Stables, Bury Road, Mainly Flat. Horses: 50. Staff: 30. Best horse: Cockatoo Island. Best race won: Oke Cup.

David Ringer, Saffron House, Hamilton Road, NH/Flat. Horses: 25. Best horse: Tamalour. Leading National Hunt trainer in Newmarket.

Michael Ryan, Cadogan House, Stables, 35, Old Station Road, Flat/NH. Horses: 40. Staff: 15.

Richard Shaw, Chestnut Tree Stables, Flat. Horses: 13. Staff: 6.

Ron Sheather, Park Lodge Stables, Park Lane, Flat. Horses: 30. Staff: 15. Best horse: Moogle. Merton Melody. Best race won: Ely Handicap.

Alec Stewart, Clarendon, Bury Road, Flat. Horses: 72. Staff: 35. Best horse: Mito. Best race won: Coral Eclipse, Prince of Wales Stakes.

Michael Stoute, Beach Hurst, Bury Road, Flat. Horses: 125. Staff: 65. Best horse: Ajdal Unita. Best race won: The Oaks, The Irish Oaks, July Cup.

David Thom, Harrington Court, Flat/NH. Horses: 37. Staff: 7. Best horse: Father Time. Best race won: Innovative Marketing Sprint Handicap.

Jessie Toller, Wellbottom Lodge, Moulton Padocks, Flat. Horses: 20. Staff: 9. Best horse: Bath.

Mark Tompkins, Flint Cottage Stables, Flat/NH. Horses: 40. Staff: 14. Best horse: Dorking Lad. Debutant Delight (won German race). Best race won: Fox Hunting Stakes, Pokal-60th Deutscher Stutenpreis, Hannover.

Christian Wall, Wroughton House Stables, Flat. Horses: 22. Staff: 13. Best horse: Vegas Shot. Poken-60th Deutscher Stutenpreis, Hannover.

Christen Wall, Wroughton House Stables, Flat. Horses: 22. Staff: 13. Best horse: Vegas Shot. Poken-60th Deutscher Stutenpreis, Hannover.

Christen Wall, Wroughton House Stables, Flat. Horses: 22. Staff: 13. Best horse: Vegas Shot. Poken-60th Deutscher Stutenpreis, Hannover.

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Court of Appeal

Facts insufficient for granting ouster order

Wiseman v Simpson
Before Lord Justice Mustill and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson
[Judgment September 30]

A man who had done no wrong was not to be ousted from his home merely because his former girlfriend and their child were in greater need of the accommodation.

An order under the Domestic Violence and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1976 was a drastic measure only to be taken if it was just and reasonable to do so having regard to all the circumstances and to the nature and purpose of such an order.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments allowing an appeal by the appellant, Sean Joseph Wiseman, from the order of Judge Goldstone in Barnet County Court made in favour of the respondent, Debbie Simpson, restraining him from returning to the council flat of which they were the joint tenants.

Lord Meston for Mr Wiseman: Mr J. Edward Cross for Miss Simpson.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that the parties, both aged 21, were unmarried with a son now 20 months old. In April 1986 they were granted a joint tenancy of a two-bedroomed council flat at Borchamwood. In June 1987 the respondent refused the appellant entry to the flat, changing the lock on the door and telling him she was "taking over the flat from now on".

The appellant applied under

the 1976 Act to the county court for, *inter alia*, an order to be permitted to return to his home. The respondent made a cross-application that he be excluded.

On June 22, Judge Goldstone granted the respondent an injunction restraining the appellant from returning. He stated that the appellant was "not a bad man and was not violent. Two very young people have simply ceased to be in love with each other."

He then went on to hold that he had to apply section 1(3) of the Matrimonial Homes Act 1983, namely to make such order as was just and reasonable having regard to the conduct of the spouses in relation to each other and otherwise.

In his reasons for his decision the judge found that it was no longer practical for the parties to live together; that they were both genuinely fond of the child and were good parents; that there was no chance of a reconciliation between them and that the respondent had no alternative accommodation whereas the appellant had accommodation at his parent's house.

As a matter of housing policy Judge Goldstone's decision might well be right. But the court had no power to decide such a case simply as a matter of policy. Jurisdiction was given by the 1976 Act and the question was whether the order could be sustained under the provisions of that Act.

The appellant submitted that there was no sufficient evidence on which the order excluding

him from his home could properly be made: such an order, it was said, could not be made without proof of violence or of serious molestation likely to expose the common-law spouse to serious damage. Alternatively, he submitted, such an order should only be made with due regard to the draconian nature of such an order and the judge had failed in that respect.

The respondent said that the judge had correctly directed himself and the evidence justified his conclusion that it was just and reasonable to make the order.

The case was difficult. Clearly in proceedings under section 1 of the 1976 Act the court had to apply the principles set out in section 1(3) of the Matrimonial Homes Act 1983: see *Richards v Richards* [1984] 1 All ER 343.

The contention that no ouster order could properly be made under section 1(1) of the 1976 Act without proof of violence or serious molestation, as put forward by Lord Meston, was unsustainable: see *Summers v Summers* [1986] 1 F.L.R. 343.

The appellant's alternative submission that the judge had failed to consider the draconian nature of the order was also based on the *Summers* case.

Although the judge had considered the conduct of the parties and their respective needs and financial resources and the needs of the child and all the circumstances as listed in section 1(3) of the Matrimonial Homes Act 1983, he could not make an ouster order merely

because the case of one of the parties was on those matters stronger than the case of the other.

It could only be just and reasonable to make it if the case of the party claiming the order was not only stronger on those matters but was such as to justify ordering that a man or woman be ousted from his or her home.

As joint tenants each had the right to occupy and neither could lawfully exclude the other. If the respondent truly found it intolerable to remain in the flat with the appellant and he had infringed no right of the respondent then she had no remedy at law and could do nothing but leave.

The position of council tenants had changed since the Housing Act 1980 which introduced secure tenancies and the right to buy; but there were no provisions for dealing with the break-down of relationships of unmarried joint tenants.

The right of a joint tenancy of a council flat or house was now more secure and valuable right than it was before 1980. But where such a relationship as the present broke down the right was for either party likely to be fragile. To order anyone to leave his home was a drastic thing to do.

Here the respondent had excluded the appellant without notice. That was a serious wrong from which the court would ensure that she gained no advantage.

The housing needs of the

respondent and the child were satisfied by the flat. By allowing the appellant to return the court would only deprive her and the child of that housing if the appellant's return. There was nothing in his conduct which amounted to a reasonable grounds for her refusing leave to return to the home if he was living there.

Each of the parties wanted the other to go. But the appellant's admission that it would not really work for them to live together at the flat did not amount to a reasonable cause for the respondent's stated attitude that if he returned she would have to go with the child from the flat. Moreover, he was not a trainer at Newmarket; he had trained elsewhere previously.

The case was a weak one for an ouster order. To order a man who had done no wrong from his home was without question drastic. When it was to be done reasons why it was necessary to take such a step should be given. On the facts it was hard to know how the order could be justified.

The court would take the same course as in *Summers* and set the order aside but order a new order in its place.

It would not be right for the court to substitute its own conclusions.

Lord Justice Mustill agreed.

Solicitors: Pollards, Borchamwood: Freedman Sharman & Co. Borchamwood.

E. Hannibal & Co Ltd v Frost
Before Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Balcombe
[Judgment October 7]

It was not within the powers of a company director to apply company money as bribes to secure business for the company.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff company, E. Hannibal & Co Ltd, from a decision of Judge Doherty, Q.C., sitting as a deputy High Court judge, whereby reversing the decision of Master Warren in proceedings for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, he gave the defendant, Robert Norman Frost, leave to defend.

Mr Andrew Clarke for the plaintiff company: Mr Jeremy F. J. Russell for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that between 1981 and 1984 the defendant was employed as managing director by the plaintiff company. By a writ in 1986 the plaintiff company claimed £33,675 as being money that the

defendant had wrongly retained or converted to his own use.

The defendant in his defence pleaded that any such sum of money had been used to pay sub-contractors for work done on the plaintiff company's behalf.

In October 1986 the plaintiff company obtained summary judgment against the defendant under Order 14. His appeal against that order came before Judge Doherty supported by a further affidavit in which he clearly deposed that the payments in issue which he had withdrawn from the plaintiff company had been used by him as bribes to a representative of a substantial company with a view to getting work for the company and not as he had previously alleged.

The principal point taken by the plaintiff company was that even if the defendant had used the money in that way, it would be both *ultra vires* the plaintiff company and his powers as a director and therefore it did not

constitute a defence to the claim.

The defendant said in answer that being the managing director and having regard to the gain in business thereby secured, it was arguable that the payments, although bribes, had been legitimately made.

That defence was unarguable. Whether or not the giving of bribes was *ultra vires* a company (as it probably was) certainly the giving of such bribes was the duty of a director unless and until, if it was *ultra vires* the company, he was authorized so to do by the shareholders. It was not contended that it was so authorized.

As a matter of law even if the defendant's latest version of the events might be true, that version provided no defence at all and there should be judgment for the plaintiff company.

Lord Justice Balcombe delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Lewis Silkin; Bosworth, East Molesley.

Nuisance prohibition permanent

Regina v Birmingham Justices, Ex parte Guppy

On a proper construction of section 58 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974, the requirement prohibiting the recurrence of a nuisance was not subject to a time limit within which compliance was to be made.

The Queen's Bench Di-

visional Court (Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Mann) so held on October 7 in dismissing an application by Mrs May Guppy for an order of *certiorari* to quash the decision of the Birmingham Justices to convict her of three offences concerning nuisance caused by amplification of music under section 58 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974, on November 19, 1986.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that the prohibition took effect as soon as the requirement to cease causing the nuisance was complied with and remained in force indefinitely.

Bar exam results

Michaelmas Term Bar examination results will be published tomorrow.

كتاب الاموال

TENNIS

Wood and Lake on common ground under a British cloud

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Clare Wood, aged 19, and Valda Lake, aged 18, have been chosen to fill the vacancies in Britain's team to oppose the United States in the Wightman Cup contest at Williamsburg, Virginia, from October 29 to 31. They join Jo Durie, Sara Gomer and Anne Hobbs. Miss Durie and Miss Hobbs can play only one doubles, so either Miss Wood or Miss Lake, perhaps both, must take part in the other.

Miss Wood was born in Zululand, an uncommon source for Wightman Cup players, but was brought to England at the age of 10 and now lives at Littlehampton. Miss Lake has a more conventional background, though her full name might have been invented for a film starlet or some heroine of romantic fiction. She comes from Torquay, an area that produced such formerly prominent players as Joan Curry, Angela Mortimer, Paddy Roberts, Mike Sangster and Sue Barker.

Miss Wood and Miss Lake were members of the British team who beat the US in last month's contest between players aged 21 or less. Miss Wood booked a ticket to Virginia with impressive performances in singles and doubles during last week's national championships at Telford.

The other vacancy was more difficult to fill but Miss Lake has been preferred to Julie Salmon, aged 22, who reached the Telford doubles final in partnership with Miss Gomer but did nothing to suggest that she was a better long-term prospect than Miss Lake.

The US team is below its potential strength but Pam Shriver, Zina Garrison, Lori McNeil, Gigi Fernandez and Robin White should dispose of Britain without much bother. Britain's last success was in 1978. Since then Britain has won only six matches out of 56 in eight contests.

The series is too one-sided to have competitive validity. On the other hand its traditional and social values should not be underrated. It also gives competitors experience of international team competition: only one step below the ultimate test, the world championship for the Federation Cup. In the past decade the Wightman Cup contest has, in addition, developed into a successful marriage of sport and show business.

Whether all that justifies the continuance of the series in its present form is open to question. I think not. The competitive heart of such events must be sound: and that is not the case. The competition could be revised - restricting America's choice to the 13 original British colonies - without damage to its essential nature as a traditional Anglo-American festival.

There should also be a contest, as in golf, between the US and Europe as a whole. At present no British player is good enough to command a place in a European team, but the challenge of earning such a distinction could be a sharp spur to improvement.

BASEBALL

Pitcher leads hit parade

By Robert Kirby

Like most major-league pitchers, Greg Maddux rarely intimidates the opposition with a fast ball in his hand. With a batting average of .191, he usually has to rely on the hitting expertise of his colleagues.

However, on Tuesday night in St. Louis, Maddux batted in two runs and limited the San Francisco Giants to four hits in six innings as the Cardinals won the first game of the best-of-seven National League championship series 5-3. Maddux was a late replacement for Danny Cox.

"I wasn't going up there to strike out," Maddux said with the innocence of a batting champion. "I found a pitch and

just stuck out my bat." St. Louis tied the game at 2-2 in the bottom of the fourth inning when Willie McGee singled, scored, and then hit a triple. The Cardinals went ahead 3-2 in the sixth inning when Dan Driessen doubled and scored on a single by McGee.

The Giants' starting pitcher, Rick Reuschel, then gave up another hit to set the scene for Maddux's key hit.

In the American League championship series, the Minnesota Twins will play the Detroit Tigers. The Detroit pennant winners will then meet in the World Series.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.30): First division: Blackpool v Leeds; Hull v Sheffield Wednesday; Manchester City v Derby (8.45); Sheffield United v Gillingham (7.30). Second division: Newcastle v Preston.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Carlsberg League: Bolton and Bury v Birmingham; Livingston v Derby (8.0).

EQUINE: York Horse promotion.

ICE SKATING: St. Hel International (at Richmond).

SNOWKING: Tennants UK Preliminary rounds (at Bolton).

SPEEDWAY: Supremacy match: Arena Essex. Tour match: Middlesbrough v Young Gunners (at Doncaster).

SPORT ON TV

HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW: from Wembley Arena, 8.30 and 11 p.m.

ICE SKATING: St. Hel International from Richmond, 8.45 p.m. (TV: 11 p.m.)

SHOOTING: Darts: pro-celebrity championship: Semi-final of Roddick city cup event from Luton, 8.30 p.m. (BBC2, 8.50 p.m.)

THE RAMS ARE BACK: Return of Derby County Football Club to the First division and their former glory, 8.55 p.m.

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The magnificent seven: award-winning coaches (from left) back row: Michael Smith, Penny Chuter, Lenny McCaigie, Andy Cooke; front row: Dorothy Jenkins, Sean Kyle, Vivien Samuels (Photograph: Mark Pepper)

Coaches' work is rewarded

By Jim Ralton

Dorothy Jenkins, the Welsh coach, who teaches the blind and other handicapped people to take part in archery, was one of seven coaches honoured at the Severn, in London, yesterday. She and the six other winners in the British National Association of National Coaches, Dextrose Coach of the Year Awards, received a bronze trophy and £1,000 for a project of their choice which can be undertaken anywhere in the world.

The award winners, who come from England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland, cover a wide spectrum of coaching. Penny Chuter had high success in the Commonwealth Games and this year's World Championships. Her duties include not only the responsibility for selecting crews and coaches for international championships and the Olympic Games, but also a hefty administration of these systems.

In track and field, Mike Smith, based in Southampton, produced athletes of the calibre of Kris Akabusi, Roger Black and Todd Bennett.

The outstanding coach award went to Sean Kyle, of Northern Ireland, from athletics, who has won six medals in track and field since the early 1950s.

The awards will enable the coaches to broaden their horizons and enrich their respective sports.

AWARD WINNERS: Women coach to a team: Penny Chuter (rowing). Male coach to individual athletes: Mike Smith (athletics). Women coach to a team: Penny Chuter (rowing). Male coach to a team: Lenny McCaigie (hockey). Coach to disabled sportsmen and women: Dorothy Jenkins (archery). Coach to juniors: Andy Cooke (badminton). Outstanding coach: Sean Kyle (athletics).

Fallen champions shape up

By Ian Stafford

Daley Thompson and Boris Becker trained together for the first time two weeks ago in the Austrian mountains. Frank Dick said yesterday, Dick, the director of coaching for British athletics and the conditioning coach for Thompson and Becker, gave the first of what he hopes will be many grueling training sessions with the two fallen champions.

"We have now started our year's plan aimed at the Seoul Olympics," Dick said, "and our preparation was begun well for what promises to be a highly successful year."

Becker, aged 19, who lost his Wimbledon crown last June and is looking to next year to reclaim the title and the chance of a gold medal in the Seoul Olympics, met Dick in Kirchdorf on September 24 for the hardest week of his illustrious career.

"We began at 8.30 a.m. with a run around a golf course perched in the mountains," he said.

"The steep climbs proved too much so we changed our run venue to a lake which we circumnavigated in woodland for two hours every morning. Becker then spent four hours a day playing tennis with a further two hours each evening concentrating on conditioning work, particularly circuit training and leg speed work. Thompson joined us four days later for three days with Becker where, apart from the tennis, he trained the same way."

Thompson, aged 29, who lost his world title in Rome two months ago when he was run after sustaining a groin injury, has recovered. "Thompson

does not need an incentive after that happened in Rome for Seoul," Dick said.

"But training with Becker will certainly help. Both respected each other and showed how intensely competitive they are, particularly in their determination to beat each other in the training competitions they had. They spent a lot of time pulling each other's legs about their respective ages, but they share many common interests and their training benefited as they tried to outdo each other."

"At times Becker thought I was trying to kill him, but the training was that tough, but he did not fully realize how far he can be pushed. The result of such sessions is that he will soon be the quickest tennis player in the world."

SQUASH RACKETS

Nicoll takes another scalp

By Colin McQuillan

Jason Nicoll, who plays for Leicester in the American Express, added another scalp to his list this week by defeating Gavin Brice, the second string for Village Leisure, 4-9, 7-9, 10-8, 9-1, 9-0.

Three weeks ago, Nicoll beat Philip Kenyon, which means the England junior has defeated the two most experienced players in the England squad for the world team championships.

To put his achievement in perspective, Nicoll, who has improved from thirteenth to eighth in the national rankings, was trounced on Monday by Del

Harris in the British under-23 closed final.

Harris, ranked eleventh on the list, added the world No. 23, Anders Wahlstedt, of Sweden, to his list of wins when he defeated James Cappel Ardagh to a 5-0 win over Dewsbury Central.

In Auckland yesterday, the England women's squad began their defence of the world team championship by defeating Canada, Martine Le Moignan, Lucy Soutter and Alison Cummings all won in straight games.

On 3-0. First round: England v Canada 3-0. Second round: England v Canada 3-0. Third round: England v Canada 3-0. Fourth round: England v Canada 3-0. Fifth round: England v Canada 3-0. Sixth round: England v Canada 3-0. Seventh round: England v Canada 3-0. Eighth round: England v Canada 3-0. Ninth round: England v Canada 3-0. Tenth round: England v Canada 3-0.

Cummings in 11. Moyock, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0. Second round: England v Canada 3-0. Third round: England v Canada 3-0. Fourth round: England v Canada 3-0. Fifth round: England v Canada 3-0. Sixth round: England v Canada 3-0. Seventh round: England v Canada 3-0. Eighth round: England v Canada 3-0. Ninth round: England v Canada 3-0. Tenth round: England v Canada 3-0.

AMERICAN EXPRESS PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: English League, 4. Village Leisure v Manchester Northern 2. Inter City Cannock 3. Dewsbury Central 4. Vauxhall Motors 5. Vauxhall Motors 6. Vauxhall Motors 7. Vauxhall Motors 8. Vauxhall Motors 9. Vauxhall Motors 10. Vauxhall Motors 11. Vauxhall Motors 12. Vauxhall Motors 13. Vauxhall Motors 14. Vauxhall Motors 15. Vauxhall Motors 16. Vauxhall Motors 17. Vauxhall Motors 18. Vauxhall Motors 19. Vauxhall Motors 20. Vauxhall Motors 21. Vauxhall Motors 22. Vauxhall Motors 23. Vauxhall Motors 24. Vauxhall Motors 25. Vauxhall Motors 26. Vauxhall Motors 27. Vauxhall Motors 28. Vauxhall Motors 29. Vauxhall Motors 30. Vauxhall Motors 31. Vauxhall Motors 32. Vauxhall Motors 33. Vauxhall Motors 34. Vauxhall Motors 35. Vauxhall Motors 36. Vauxhall Motors 37. Vauxhall Motors 38. Vauxhall Motors 39. Vauxhall Motors 40. Vauxhall Motors 41. Vauxhall Motors 42. Vauxhall Motors 43. Vauxhall Motors 44. Vauxhall Motors 45. Vauxhall Motors 46. 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Hard work the Lyall recipe to lift West Ham

By Dennis Signy

Despite the clamour for his head from angry and frustrated supporters and sections of the media, it was business as usual in the interests of West Ham United for the manager, John Lyall, yesterday, as it has been for the past 32 years.

As he prepared to leave East London to watch a game last night in his search for a replacement for McAvennie, sold last week to Celtic for £750,000, Lyall, aged 47, said: "I have been through it all before."

As the Football League's longest-serving manager — he succeeded his mentor, Ron Greenwood, as team manager in 1974 — Lyall has experienced most of the highs and lows of the football world. He first went to Upton Park as a schoolboy player and office boy and then had to give up playing on doctors' advice at the age of 22 after obtaining England Youth honours as a full back but managing only 33 League games.

Despite the club's proud record of only five managers this century, Lyall was philosophical about the crisis headlines following only one victory this season and a humiliating 5-2 home defeat by Barnsley, a modestly placed second division side, in the Littlewoods Cup.

"People are human," he said. "The next call after yours could be from the chairman." Len Cearn, the chairman, who resolutely refuses to issue the "kiss of death" type statement assuring the manager of the board's support, allowed Lyall some comfort by stating his future was not under discussion by the directors and dismissing speculation about Terry Venables arriving at Upton Park in some capacity.

Mr Cearn said, albeit before the calamitous defeat by Barnsley in which the side surrendered a two-goal lead: "The West Ham board of directors had their usual monthly meeting last week with a perfectly normal agenda and no special items added. There was certainly no discussion about either John Lyall or Terry Venables in any way whatsoever."

An irony of the linking of Venables with West Ham is that Lyall so nearly succeeded him at Queen's Park Rangers in the summer of 1984 when Venables went to Barcelona; a

It is clear he has no intention of turning his back on the job. His recipe to end the depressing run that has seen Hamsters bring in seventh place in the table, out of one cup competition and labelled "a load of rubbish" by their own crowd in two games in four days is "graft and more graft". He made his intentions clear to his players in an hour-long session in the dressing-room after the defeat by Barnsley.

West Ham are a family club. Lyall, born nearby in Ilford, the son of a Scottish policeman, has always been regarded as one of the family by a board of directors comprising three brothers, Len, Will and Brian Cearn, Len's son, Martin, and a property magnate, Jack Petchey, who is abroad.

Lyall would not reveal his destination last night. He insists he will not be panicked into buying. Certainly the £1 million being suggested for Mick Harford, the Luton goalscorer, seems above West Ham's valuation. "I am making stringent inquiries for players of that calibre," was all Lyall would confirm. "I cannot guarantee how long it will take for a signing to materialize."

Many well-known names in football rang Lyall to offer their good wishes, their feeling was that the players were not accepting their share of the blame for the pressure on the manager. In recent months Lyall has imported £1 million worth of talent to Upton Park. Stewart Robson, from Arsenal, Liam Brady, from Italy, McQueen, from Aberdeen, and Stroder, from Lincoln. Injuries to established players such as Parkes, Gale, Devonshire and Walford have not helped Lyall's cause.



Lyall: business as usual

job that would, at the time, have made Lyall the highest paid manager in the League. West Ham gave Jim Gregory, then the chairman of Rangers, permission to speak to Lyall, but the move broke down at the eleventh hour. Lyall later signed his present contract with West Ham.

Finding a replacement for McAvennie, as well as repairing confidence for the next home fixture, against the bottom club, Charlton, on Saturday, was still Lyall's priority amid growing speculation about his future and demonstrations by supporters.

Nicholl's sales prove costly

By Clive White

Southampton's economy drive proved an expensive exercise when it came to a crashing halt against Bournemouth at The Dell on Tuesday evening. However successful the necessary repairs, Southampton's Littlewoods Cup race is over and the championship looks like proving an uphill slog.

Chris Nicholl, the manager, conceded yesterday that a journey to the market-place for at least two new players is now "a strong possibility". Nicholl, who released four England internationals during the close season to "balance the books, transfer-wise and wages-wise", admitted that the results, which include five games at home without a win, have not justified his action.

In defence of his decision to sell Shilton and Wright he said: "We were letting in goals

last season even with those two. I felt then that I was justified in letting them go."

"Apart from Wright, those who left were coming to the end of their careers, and I felt with our strong youth policy it was right to make room for the younger lads. But the squad is light, there's no question of that."

Just to worsen matters, the damage to the Southampton vehicle is at both ends, although Nicholl believes that conceding bad goals has destroyed the teamwork throughout the side.

Flowers and Moore, the two men given the task of replacing Shilton and Wright, have struggled of late. Nicholl said: "We've had some problems with the confidence between the back four and the goalkeeper, but with a young

keeper you have to expect some kind of problem."

Nicholl felt that he had been unfairly criticized for being negative. "When you hold that view up against our record last season, when only Liverpool and Everton scored more goals, it doesn't make sense," he said.

Whatever the seniors are suffering from, they have not yet been transmitted to the juniors, who again top the division of the South East Counties League.

It was because of performances like this last season that Nicholl felt encouraged to abandon the policy of age before youth which served Lawrie McMenemy, his predecessor, so well over the years. It remains to be seen whether the Southampton board share his faith in the youngsters.

Hibernian act swiftly for Goram

Hibernian paid £300,000 yesterday to sign the Scottish international goalkeeper, Andy Goram, from Oldham Athletic. The Edinburgh club, who had earlier collected £200,000 from an international tribunal for the winger, Mickey Weir, who joined Luton Town a few weeks ago, moved quickly to sign Goram after the collapse of transfer talks with Ian Andrews, Leicester City's England Under-21 goalkeeper.

Goram, aged 23, won the last of his four Scottish caps in the Rous Cup match against Brazil at Hampden Park in May. Presumably he believes that he will enhance his prospects of gaining more caps by playing in Scotland.

In recent months Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland manager, has preferred Bryan Gunn, of Norwich City, as his second choice, relegating Goram to third spot. Although Alex Miller, the Hibernian manager, insisted that it is not "the end of the road" for the former Scottish international goalkeeper, Alan Rough, aged 36, it does seem likely that he will be phased out. Commenting on the tribunal's decision that Luton must pay £200,000 for Weir, Miller, whose club had asked for £300,000, said: "The award is closer to our valuation and shows that the board reckon that Luton could have been abusing the system by their offer of £50,000."

Nottingham Forest's Northern Ireland international forward, David Campbell, is thinking over a £75,000 move to the first division strugglers, Charlton Athletic. The clubs have agreed the fee and Campbell has been left to decide whether he wants to move.



Best foot forward: Graham Gooch, man of the match, in action against an Invitation XI yesterday. (Photograph: Graham Morris)

Balestre adds to puzzle

From Andrew Longmore, Paris

The possibility that Brands Hatch and not Silverstone will be the venue for next year's British round of the Formula One World Championship was increased yesterday by Jean-Marie Balestre, president of FISA, the governing body of world motor sport.

Speaking after the final session of the world motor racing summit in Paris, Balestre said that FISA's recent ruling to stop the alternation of the grand prix between circuits might be relaxed in Britain's case.

"We have the problem in Britain because of Silverstone and Brands Hatch and there is a possibility that we will make an exception and allow Brands Hatch to have the grand prix. We will study the different cases in time for our meeting in December," he said.

But, Balestre added, because Silverstone had an agreement to stage the British grand prix for five years, any grand prix run at Brands Hatch could not be called "the British Grand Prix".

"Whatever happens, there will only be one grand prix in Britain counting towards the world championship," he said. His statement has only added to the confusion. The continued delay in allocating the grand prix increases speculation that the two circuits will privately be encouraged to come to some arrangement about the long-term future. But the RAC's outgoing representative at the FISA meeting, Peter Cooper, said it was not up to the circuits.

"Each of the circuits knows the position. The best solution, as we have always said, is to return to a system of rotation, but there will be no private talks. The decision will be up to FISA," he said.

PROVISIONAL DATES: Formula One: March 28: Brazil Grand Prix, April 5: Mexico Grand Prix, April 12: Monaco Grand Prix, May 25: Belgian Grand Prix, June 12: Canadian Grand Prix, June 19: British Grand Prix, July 26: French Grand Prix, August 2: Austrian Grand Prix, August 9: Hungarian Grand Prix, August 16: Italian Grand Prix, August 23: Portuguese Grand Prix, September 6: Spanish Grand Prix, September 13: Japanese Grand Prix, November 13: Australian Grand Prix.

Oval Tests may yet be saved

By Ian Stafford

Surrey County Cricket Club is more hopeful that Test cricket at the Oval could be safeguarded following the announcement that a Department of Environment official is prepared to discuss with the County the loss of a £1 million urban development grant.

David Trippier, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Environment who is in charge of the Inner Cities and Urban Development Grant, said at the Conservative Party Conference that he is willing to see officials from Surrey after previously informing them that he could see little point in arranging a meeting with them.

After the Government refused last week to support Oval proposals of a sports centre and new stand because it constituted too great a demand on their resources, Raman Subba Row, the Chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) and also of the Surrey management board, revealed that as a result cricket at any level could soon disappear from the Oval.

Doubts over Emburey and DeFreitas fitness

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Lahore

The England cricketers came towards the end of their preparations for the World Cup when they beat an Invitation XI here yesterday much as they pleased. On a beautiful ground and a pitch that belied its somewhat shaggy appearance they scored 261 for three to their opponents' 132 for six. The exercise was more one of acclimatisation than conflict.

England fielded the side that they were expecting to take on West Indies at Gujranwala tomorrow, which meant that Athey, Hemmings and Jarvis played for the opposition. By the end, though, Emburey's right ankle, strained when Gooch (to his subsequent mixed delight) wrong-footed him on the tennis court in Delhi last week, was swollen up again, and DeFreitas had bowled only two overs because of a twinge in his shoulder, apparently the result of a coughing fit.

There are, of course, sportsmen who feel more secure if they can be thought to have something slightly wrong with them, and DeFreitas is not currently quite the same confident cricketer he was when he left Australia last February. But far more often than not, players whose fitness is in doubt 48 hours before a match, finish up by turning out. In this case, Hemmings and Jarvis are the obvious alternatives to Emburey and DeFreitas.

I had thought Athey's main

function this winter — he is on all three legs of the touring programme — would be to save runs and hold improbable catches in the 30-yard circle in the one-day games. He is certainly wonderfully good at that. But it looks for the moment as if Robinson is to be preferred to him. As Downton's understudy behind the stumps, during the World Cup, Athey kept wicket for the first hour yesterday.

Lawrence Gardens (known now as the Bagh-i-Jinnah), where the game was played, is an inheritance from the Raj, a smaller but no less beautiful copy of the University Parks at Oxford. In the two Test matches played there, both in the 1950s, Imtiaz Ahmed and Rohan Kanhai made double hundreds, Imtiaz after going in at number eight against New Zealand. He was there yesterday, looking now older, as was the patrician figure of Jahangir Khan, father of Majid, uncle of Imran and the Cambridge bowler who bowled the ball which killed the sparrow which is stuffed and in the Long Room at Lord's.

An excellent crowd, watching from the shade of the trees, saw Gooch and Broad score 129 together for England's first wicket before they retired in successive overs. Gattling and Lamb then made merry for a while, and when the scratch side went in Athey batted nicely for 29 and two or

three of the local players did what comes naturally, which is to play some marvellously unhibited strokes. Gattling reckoned it was as hot as Brisbane for the Test match there a year ago, but no where near as humid.

Today, Peter Lush, the manager, is going to Sahiwal, to have a look at the guest house where England will be putting up for a three-day match next month. Mickey Stewart, meanwhile, will be in Gujranwala, inspecting the facilities there. Sahiwal is 100 miles from Lahore, Gujranwala nearer 50. To get to Gujranwala for a 9 o'clock start tomorrow, England plan a 6 o'clock departure from Lahore.

To try and fit 100 overs into a day (50 to each side) play begins at 9.0 in the morning and continues until 4.50, a quarter of an hour before the light starts fading fast. As far north as this, where the nights are clear and crisp the dew can be so heavy that some captains would rather take the chance of batting on a pitch that has still not quite dried out than bowling with a ball that becomes wet through with dew. When the West Indians played a practice match at Gujranwala last week they found conditions good for batting, winning comfortably against a much stronger Invitation XI than England met yesterday.

Pressure increases on Kapil

From Alan Lee, Madras

All is not quite as one might suppose in this bustling port city where India begin the long-awaited defence of their title as world one-day champions tomorrow.

It ought to be a time of unadorned celebration as Kapil Dev's unlikely conquerors prepare to show their adoring masses that the triumph of four years ago was not a fluke. Instead, the prevailing atmosphere here is of trepidation, pessimism and some undisguised resentment.

The worries confronting the Indian team and the competition organizers are manifold. They are aware that the world will sceptically shadow the performance of the team and the hazards of staging the Cup.

Already India's foremost newspaper has carried outraged letters at the amounts of money lavished on the sport when the country is gripped by drought and famine. This

anger may not be typical of a cricket-fanatical country, but it slaps down administrators wrestling with such matters as security, television coverage and unkind weather.

Security is a high priority since traditional good humour among enormous crowds has recently adopted a more sinister guise. When the holders meet Australia tomorrow, the number of armed guards will exceed 2,000. Spectators can expect to be frisked at the gates; metal detectors will be used; bottled drinks and, in some centres, transistor radios will be confiscated. The guidelines are plain: hints of trouble or injury threats to players, will bring a chorus of "I told you so".

The television doubts centre on the ability of the Indian and Pakistani channels reciprocating payments. This difficulty concerns the organizers

rather less than the unsettled weather in central India.

If Indians stopped worrying, they would agonize, perhaps more painfully, over the prospects of Kapil's team. A thumb injury rules out Chetan Sharma and exposes their suspect selection, which looks badly short of seam bowling.

Kapil must shoulder an even heavier responsibility than usual to take early wickets and stay fit. Dr Ali Iqbal, India's physiotherapist, giving exercises for his troublesome back. India's best chance probably lies with the class of their batsmen.

Clive Lloyd, reflecting if the West Indies could regain the Cup with their transitional team, said: "In the first three World Cups, everyone expected us to win easily and this weighed heavily. They will not have that burden this time." Now India are labouring under pressure.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Change of opponent

Lloyd Honeyghan will defend his world welterweight title at Wembley Grand Hall on October 28 against Jorge Vaca, of Mexico, the World Boxing Council (WBC) No. 4, and not Bobby Jo Young, of the United States, as planned. The promoters, Mike Barrett and Mickey Duff, called off the bout with Young at the request of José Suleiman, the president of the WBC, which will be holding its banquet and awards ceremony in London the same night as the contest.

Brittin named

Jeannette Brittin, the Surrey and England cricketer, was chosen by England for the women's indoor hockey tournament at Crystal Palace next month.



Cash: back to form

Cash advance

Brisbane (Reuters) — Par Cash, the Wimbledon champion, still nursing the knee injury which kept him out of Davis Cup singles duty, incurred two warnings for code violations in scoring a 7-6, 6-1 victory over a fellow-Australian, Peter Carter, in the first round of the Brisbane indoor tennis grand prix yesterday.

Talks proceed

New York (AP) — The chief negotiators for the National Football League owners and players resumed contract discussions yesterday. Jack Donlan, the management representative, said that a settlement of the 17-day-old dispute would take "considerable time".

Kerr rebuked

John Kerr, the Leigh stand-off half, was found guilty by the management committee yesterday of bringing the game into disrepute and suspended for three matches.

Out of favour

Whitehaven Rugby League Club, with four defeats in five games this season, yesterday dismissed Phil Kitchen, their coach.

Fight to stop new ice rink

By John Hennessy

A proposal to build a new ice rink and hotel in Richmond, Surrey, has run into opposition from the local council and conservation groups.

The present rink, originally constructed as a munitions factory in 1916, has been sold to the London and Edinburgh Trust (LET) and is to be developed for residential purposes.

LET wishes to build a replacement rink on part of Old Deer Park leased at the moment for the joint use of Richmond and London Scottish Rugby clubs, together with an hotel and multi-storey car park on the other side of the A316.

Alison Cornish, a member of the executive committee of the Richmond Society, a body dedicated to preserving the character of the area, said: "We shall resist any attempt to build on metropolitan open land. There is no obvious need for an hotel and we feel that it will be nothing more than a convenient stop-off for businessmen using the M3."

Carolyn Lake, a member of the executive committee of the Richmond Society, a body dedicated to preserving the character of the area, said: "We shall resist any attempt to build on metropolitan open land. There is no obvious need for an hotel and we feel that it will be nothing more than a convenient stop-off for businessmen using the M3."

A spokesman for Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club, which would be adjacent to the new development, said: "The recommendation of our committee is likely to be not to have this large complex on our doorstep, no more than 35 yards from our boundary wall."

IOC wants to ban HCG drug

By Ian Stafford

The campaign against drug abuse in sport, recently highlighted by Cofin Moylan, the Minister for Sport, and the Sports Council, has received a major boost with the news that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) medical committee decided at a meeting in Moscow to recommend the banning of human chorionic gonadotrophin (HCG), a hormone preparation, in time for the Winter Olympics in Calgary next February.

HCG, used by athletes increasingly in recent years, is injected into the body. This results in the natural production of testosterone, the anabolic steroid which, because it enhances the performance of an athlete, was banned in 1983. Although many have pressed for HCG to become a prohibited substance up to now athletes have been allowed to use this strengthening process.

"I am absolutely delighted with this news," Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of the Sports Council's Drugs Advisory Group, said. "This closes yet another loophole in the fight against drugs, but it will also protect the potential user against dire side-effects."

"We have been pushing the IOC hard on this," Professor Raymond Brooks said. He is the head of the drugs research unit financed by the Sports Council at St Thomas's Hospital.

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